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SPARK ig-knights volunteerism at UCF

By GWEN R. RHODES
Staff Writer

Volunteer UCF has set up SPARK in an effort to recruit people. SPARK is geared toward individuals who may have thought they did not have the time to fit volunteering into their busy schedules.

The organization, which started in January, is in need for people with ideas for organizational projects or who just want to help make the world a little better.

"Our first special project was the Special Olympics," said Melissa Zelniker, SPARK chairman. "SPARK is a special projects group in which people participate in preplanned projects once or twice a month on Saturdays."

"We tried to make it easier on people who wanted to get involved by giving them a choice of what type of project they would like to work on without the weekly meetings, dues or other time commitments that volunteering usually involves."

In addition to the Special Olympics, the volunteers have helped with the St. John's River Cleanup, UCF Beautification and Habitat for Humanity projects.

"We had a really great response for Habitat for Humanity," Zelniker said. "About 40 or 50 people showed up to help. We've gotten more students as the months have gone by."

Students who are on the organization's phone list are called and asked if they would like to work on a specific project.

Zelniker said people liked the idea that they could choose which projects suited their needs and interests.

According to Zelniker, it is perfect for students who need community service hours. Zelniker plans to have more projects lined up in the fall.

"We don't have a lot of money to do stuff, so we often work with other groups and pool our resources," she said.

See SPARK, Page 5

Victims hang symbolic shirts on campus

By LORI CARTER
Staff Writer

The UCFPD Victim Services' Unit, women's studies and the REACH program presented their third annual Clothesline Project on April 7.

The T-shirts made by victims of various crimes, including those with the Central Florida Clothesline Project, will be displayed during National Victim's Rights Week on April 25 in downtown Orlando at Lake Eola.

The T-Shirts were made by victims of violent acts. There were three workshops prior to the display.

"Victims come to create shirts in a supportive environment," said Kim Williams, victim advocate for the UCFPD Victim Services' Unit. "It's a lot like a support group."

There are counselors in case the victim needs to talk because it involves a lot of emotions, Williams said. But the victims that are referred to victim services are usually ready to help increase public awareness.

The color of the T-shirt corresponds to a specific act of violence.

Williams said she remembers



Photo by MIKE MARSHALL

Acoustic guitarist Angela De Pollo performed on front of the Student Union on April 7 during the Third Annual Clothesline Project.

See T-SHIRTS, Page 4

Two divisions unite to enhance student learning

By OLIVIA K. CURNOW
Managing Editor

UCF administration is about to face two major changes once the spring semester finishes: the merge of two of the largest divisions on campus and its leadership.

On May 11, Dr. Thomas Huddleston, vice provost for enrollment and academic services, will become the interim vice president of a new division after student affairs vice president Levester Tubbs' resignation goes into effect.

The new division, which does not have a name yet, is a combination of the enrollment and academic services and student affairs divisions. The decision to merge the two was suggested by a committee appointed by vice provost Gary Whitehouse. The committee's duty was to review options important to the reorganization of student affairs after Tubbs resigned.

Whitehouse said he has agreed to a two-year trial period for the division and he appointed Huddleston because of his previous experience as associate provost for student affairs at Bradley University,

See HUDDLESTON, Page 2

Sigma Chi prez moves into a different office

By GWEN R. RHODES
Staff Writer

Sigma Chi President Andrew Cupicha was elected as the president of the Southeastern Interfraternity Conference (SEIFC) on Feb. 14 in Atlanta, Ga.

SEIFC represents colleges from 11 states. It is a group of fraternity men who have shown excellent leadership skills in their Greek systems and on their campuses.

This past year, Cupicha served as SEIFC vice president. As president, he will preside over the executive committees of fraternity councils from more than 100 southeast colleges.

As vice president, Cupicha served as a liaison between the president and SEIFC members in Florida and Georgia.

"The vice presidents are each assigned specific states," said Cupicha, a pre-law major. "We then coordinate with the various interfraternity councils at each school in our assigned area."

Cupicha said the job is difficult.

"It is pretty tough because the job is spread over a large area," Cupicha said. "We have to do a lot of planning for the conference which is held in February."

"We want to have sessions at the conference which are customized to fit the needs of the SEIFC members in addressing the issues they have to face on their individual college campuses."

Cupicha said it was his desire to help keep the information at the conference's as up-to-date

See GREEKS, Page 4

OPINION

False alarms no joke

Avoid the temptation to pull the alarm.

— Page 11

REVIEW

Touched by an actor

Nicholas Cage falls for Meg Ryan in "City of Angels."

— Page 15

SPORTS

Spring fling

Game story and features from the Balck and Gold game.

— Page 28

Engineering teams prepare to race in rough terrain

By BRIAN SMITH
News Editor

In May and April, UCF will send auto engineering teams to the Mini-Baja competitions, which are patterned after the baja 1,000 off-road race.

The teams built two different vehicles due to the differing terrain. "We have a steel frame car for the Southwest," said Gary Morris, captain of the team of UCF students heading to El Paso, Tx., for the Mini-Baja West in mid-April. "For the east, we use an aluminum frame."

The Mini-Baja vehicles are designed for one person and are powered by an eight horsepower Briggs and Stratton engine. The designs will be judged on construction, acceleration, maneuverability and performance.

The teams will compete in a four-hour endurance race over rugged terrain.

"Endurance is important out west," said team advisor Charles Nuckolls. "They have lots of rocks. In the east, the races are more amphibious."

UCF has sent teams to off-road meets for 20 years and have placed in the top five. To improve, UCF plans to focus on a long-range plan.

"We have included several freshman and sophomores in the teams this year," Morris said.

The goal of the plan is to build more experience teams in the

future. About 67 students are involved in the design and the building project.

Twelve students will make the trip to El Paso.

Students from 46 universities in the United States and Mexico will compete this year in Texas. One hundred fifty colleges and universities from all over North and South America will take part in the total series of contests, which are sponsored by the Society of Automotive Engineers.

In other UCF news:

- UCF was selected with 56 other universities throughout the nation to take a leadership role in a program initiated by President Bill Clinton called "The President's Initiative on Race."

April 6 through 9 marked the beginning of UCF's participation in the national program. The focus was to discuss how higher education, in conjunction with local communities, can prepare students and graduates to address and improve racism in its many forms.

Activities during the week included a dialogue about race, racism and reconciliation in the Student Union after the film, *The Color of Fear*.

- Representatives for Florida Leader magazine visited UCF on April 7 to make an official presentation to the Student Government Association (SGA).

SGA was awarded as the "Best Student Government, Public

University." The representatives met with a variety of UCF officials: Chris McCray, department of housing, Reuben Rodriguez, Office of Student Activities, Greg Mason, Greek Affairs and other Greek leaders.

- More than 40 UCF organizations encouraged people to "Get Carded" between April 2-8.

The campaign began with a kick off dinner on April 2, which was held at the Student Union. The dinner provided real-life experiences to be shared with student leaders to broaden their understanding of the issue and encourage their support through the distribution of donor cards.

Speakers at the dinner included: Dr. Mary Palmer and Sheriff Stephen M. Oelrich.

The highlight of the week occurred at the Student Union's South Plaza on April 8. Second Chance, a jazz and rock band, played at the Get Carded Concert and Festival.

The concert provided students and faculty with information about organ donation, tissue transplants and the significant impact of the donor shortage on minority populations.

Facts about organ and tissue donation:

- More than 58,000 Americans currently await organ transplants. Many more are in need of life-enhancing tissue transplants to restore vision, ease mobility and to alleviate burns and illness.
- Ten lives are lost each day, 4,000



Photo by MIKE MARSHALL

Keith McDonald and Karen Montague display the Best Student Government award given to UCF by Florida Leader Magazine.

each year due to the critical shortage of organs and tissue.

- Transplant success rates are at an all-time high. According to a recent report from the Department of

Health and Human Services, one year post-transplant patient survival rates are 72 percent for lung, 79 percent for liver, 82 percent for heart and 92 percent for kidney.

Huddleston looking forward to new challenge

From PAGE 1

where he worked with President John Hitt.

"Dr. Huddleston has significant managerial experience related to student affairs," Whitehouse said. "He was an early pioneer in integrating student enrollment issues within the mission of a traditional student affairs organizational model."

The division will unify formerly separate functions such as housing, counseling and testing, student health services, recreational services, student legal affairs, financial assistance and aca-

demic advising among many others.

Although Huddleston, who has worked at UCF since 1993, is looking forward to heading the division, he said it is too premature to plan any changes.

"That's part of the challenge and opportunity," he said. "How best can we take two student oriented divisions and make a better organized division? Collaboration is going to be a key issue. We are going to move as quickly as is prudent and do an evaluation after the first year. We'll do as much as we can with as much as we can."

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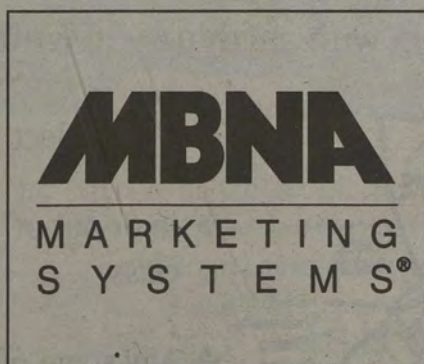
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T-shirts tell stories of violence

From PAGE 1

one particular T-shirt during her three-year history with the project that has stuck with her.

"Teach me to cry and when I've learned to cry, teach me to laugh, so I can dance in the puddle of my tears," the T-shirt said.

According to Williams, 50 percent of the calls that come into victim services include: domestic and relationship violence, stalking, battery, assault and harassing phone calls.

"Speak-Out gives people the opportunity to speak-out

over the microphone," said Victoria Ott, board member of Full Circle. "Full Circle members will read anonymously for people."

According to Ott, the speakers included a representative from UCFPD, who stressed the department wanted to get more involved with the students on campus and spoke about the Students

Escort Patrol Service.

"It was a busy day," Ott said. "A lot of students listened to the Speak-Out. I think the day was a success because it helped raise awareness."

"It raises awareness to violence against women and the disenfranchised groups like homophobic assaults," said Shelley Park, interim director of women's studies.

"I want

to make students aware that crimes occur on campus and that services are available 24 hours a day," Williams said. "You don't have to give information to the police. We encourage reports being done, but they are not mandatory."

If you are a victim and need help, call 823-5555 and ask for a victim advocate

SHIRT COLOR CODE

- White - homicide victims
- Grey - male survivors
- Green/blue - childhood sexual abuse
- Red/pink/orange - sexual assault
- Yellow/beige - battered women
- Purple/lavender - attacks on homosexuals

Greeks win awards of excellence

From PAGE 1

as possible.

"I would like to get more involved in what is going on at the individual campuses and be able to better customize the issues we discuss at the conference," Cupicha said. "We often have the problem that by the time the conference is held, the issue has already been dealt with."

"Then it is discussed at length at the conference and suggestions are made. The representative then wishes that they had the suggestions earlier because they would have dealt with the problem differently."

Cupicha said he is up to the challenge of addressing that problem as well as researching other issues such as risk management policies and campus leadership issues. Risk management policies have become a major concern at the national level for college Greek organizations.

According to Cupicha, three Greek chapters in the nation have chosen to "go dry," which means they will not serve alcohol at their chapter functions.

"Taking more responsibility for the drinking problems associated with fraternities is one of the main goals of risk management," Cupicha said. "Most people have the Animal House stereotype in their minds when they think of fraternity men. What they fail to realize is that fraternities are built and survive on their high ideals and ethics. They seek out good men and strive to make them better."

Cupicha said he wants to focus on other issues besides alcohol.

"We want to get away from the focus on alcohol and focus more on what the organizations were actually founded for, which is to promote community service and to grow as an individual," Cupicha said. "Our local community is scrutinizing us more and more so it is time that we address the issue."

Cupicha said he intends to make risk management part of his agenda at the SEIFC.

"It is not a problem that will be fixed in one year, but at least I can help get the ball rolling," Cupicha said.

The UCF Interfraternity Council was also honored at the SEIFC conference by winning two awards: the Fraternal Excellence Award and the Continuing Program Award.

The Fraternal Excellence Award is given to colleges that excel in at least nine out of 12 criteria. UCF was the only school in the large-school division to have met all 12 of the criteria.

According to Bart Marek, UCF Interfraternity Council president, the award is based on a set of criteria that addresses things like management, service, academics, philanthropy events, financial risk management, administration relations and community outreach.

"We completed all of the requirements and I am proud that we did very well in them," Marek said.

The SEIFC Continuing Program Award was presented to only two out of the 99 colleges present. UCF received the award for Trick or Treat on Greek Street, which was held last October. The community outreach project was recognized as the best community service project in the Southeast.

The UCF Greek system sponsors Trick or Treat on Greek Street during which they secure donations from business sponsors like Toys 'r Us and PetSmart.

According to Marek, the UCF Interfraternity Council visited or sent invitations to all the local elementary schools in the surrounding area.

"Toys R' Us donated toys and PetSmart donated goldfish for us to give away as prizes," Marek said. "We closed off Greek Street and each Greek organization brought in candy and set up games in their front yards to provide a safe place for the children and their parents to come and enjoy their time together."

The money that was raised from the event went to the Crisis Nursery charity to help underprivileged kids

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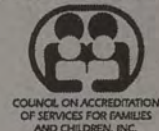
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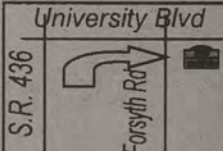
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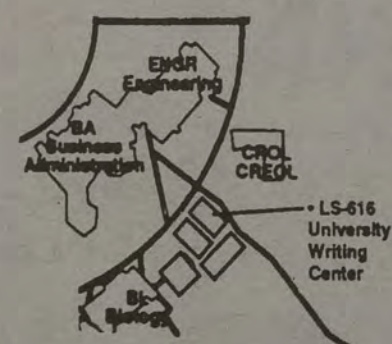
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An endurance race for a cure

By KATHERINE MARTIN
Staff Writer

A majority of people in the United States battle with cancer. They battle cancer either by having it or supporting a family member or friend inflicted with the disease.

"The Relay for Life was started in Tacoma, WA, by a man who walked 24 hours for cancer," said Karen Neely, American Cancer Society spokesperson. "The Relay for Life has been the signature for the American Cancer Society ever since."

Participants of the event can

run, walk, rollerblade or use another method to travel around the track for the 18-hour period. The participants of the event will form teams with about 10 to 15 members.

The event begins with a survivors' lap of victory, which also honors those who have died. This is the second year for Florida's Relay for Life, and it has expanded to two locations so more teams can participate.

The event will begin at 6 p.m. on April 24 and finish at noon on April 25. This is an annual fundraiser for the American Cancer Society.

Sorority hunts for Easter eggs with local school children

By DAWN MYERS
Staff Writer

Alpha Xi Delta spent the morning of April 9 with the children in the Bonneville Elementary Head Start program.

The sorority members hid Easter eggs throughout the playground for this first hunt.

In other Greek news

- Alpha Xi Delta and Sigma Chi is hosting an alcohol pre-

ΓΠΕΕΚ ΝΕΩΣ
(Greek News)

sentation titled, By the Numbers. The presentation will be held on April 20 in the Student Union Key West room 218 AB at 7:30 p.m. The presentation will consist of numerous fact and statistics.

- Alpha Delta Pi is hosting "8-Ball," which is a billiards competition at the Wing Shack on April 20.

The competition will begin at 8 p.m. Teams with two members will need to provide a \$25 entry fee. All proceeds will benefit the Ronald McDonald House.

- Sigma Phi Epsilon's Queen of Hearts was a success for the American Heart Association. At the event, Heather Short, Tri-Delta, was selected the Queen of Hearts, and Zeta Tau Alpha won a kickball tournament.

Fax your letter to the editor. 977-0019

SPARK acts as liaison between students, agencies

From PAGE 1

Volunteer UCF is an information resource and referral source for UCF students. It acts as a liaison between students and the community.

"So, if you came in as a student and you were interested in doing some criminal justice work we have books of lists with all the agencies volunteers need," Zelniker said. "Basically, what we do is match the student need with the agency need."

According to Zelniker, Volunteer UCF also puts on special projects during the year like the Hunger Banquet in the fall, Get Carded organ-donor dinner on April 2 and the organ-donor festival and concert held April 8.

"We do the volunteer fair in the fall in which about 100 agencies come out and set up tables with exhibits to let the students know what all is available in the community," Zelniker said. "Since we started SPARK, many people who have gotten involved, get caught up in the spirit of it and say 'I like doing this,' especially those who helped with the Special Olympics."

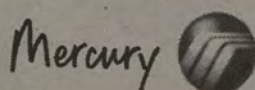
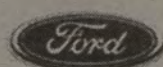
Also planned for the fall are projects such as "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" which involves children from the Esteem Agency and YMCA. The group is also trying to match up kids with UCF students, mimicking the Big Brother/Big Sister program.

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**GOOD LUCK
DURING
FINALS WEEK!**

Will the real athletes please stand up?

By **CLAIRE WEINGARDEN**
College Press Service

March Madness is here, bringing with it that widely held, seldom-challenged belief that the hardest working athletes on the basketball court are the ones handling the ball.

College mascots know better. And aside from all the bumps, bruises and unbelievable body odor they have to endure, many say their jobs are some of the best gigs around.

After all, they have licenses to ditch insecurities for a while and act completely goofy in front of thousands of people. They get chances to poke fun at all the folks who deserve it most: stuffy alumni, snooty sorority girls, sloppy drunks and spectators who take the game too seriously. They also capture the hearts of children, who often want a picture with them, not some star point guard or quarter-back.

And the beauty of it all, many mascots say, is that they work in near-total anonymity.

"Outside of the costume, I would consider myself to be a pretty shy person," said Tara Mobray, a junior chemistry major who is a Baby Jay mascot for The University of

Kansas. "But once inside the costume, I can really turn it on."

"Athletes? These people aren't athletes," you say. But then you've probably never run around a basketball court or football field for hours on end wearing shoulder pads, fake fur overalls and 40 pounds of fiberglass headgear like John Seelman, a senior English and public relations major better known as "Bucky Badger" at the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

"High endurance is the key to being able to stay alive out there while you're in costume," he said. "I probably lose 10 pounds per game because I sweat so much. It's not a pretty picture."

Added Mobray: "To be lively in that costume for hours on end, you've got to be a fairly athletic person. It gets unbelievably hot in there."

And smelly.

"Wearing that head can be terrible, especially the first couple of times," said Scott Craig, Duke University's Blue Devil. "I try and rinse the head out with a vodka and

water solution, but really, it's no use. I feel for anyone who has to get near me after the game."

Mascots dance, dive, tumble, jump up and down and play



fight with mascots from opposing teams — anything to rev up a crowd. The trick to being loved is maintaining a frenzied spontaneity that doesn't stop until the buzzer

sounds. And, of course, keeping their balance while wearing costumes that obliterate their peripheral vision.

"When interviewing potential mascots, I look for individuals who aren't afraid to be crazy," said Linda Bell, cheerleading coach at Syracuse University. "I want to find people who can put on that costume and really become the character."

That's right, mascots have tryouts just like any other athlete.

"The physical part of the tryouts could have been renamed 101 ways to make an ass out of yourself," Seelman said. "I had to dance around in a gym for two and a half hours without even wearing the costume. I might as well have been naked."

Before they're hired, mascots also have to prove they're fast thinkers.

"I had to do a lot of improv," said Craig, a senior biomedical engineering major. "The judges wanted to see what I would do to pump up the crowd if the team was really cold. They also wanted

to see how I would react if Duke had just scored the winning basket against UNC."

And, like any good athletes, mascots have to follow a few rules: They always lose play fights when they're working an away game; they don't talk while in costume (Some schools even require them not to reveal their identities to anyone); and they try not to go into the stands without security.

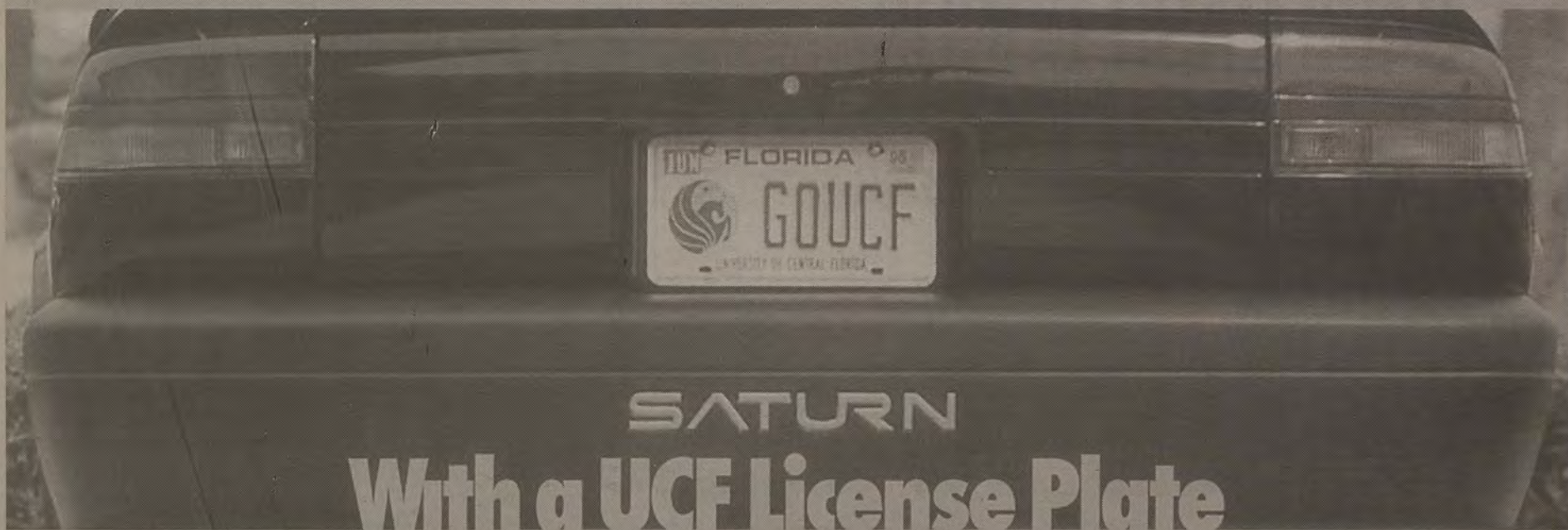
"It's just not smart to head over to the crowd without having someone else with you," Craig said. "People mess with you, and 12-year-old boys are the worst. They know you're not real, and they're usually trying to prove it to the little kids who think you are. So they're always trying to rip my head off or mess with my costume."

Then there was that little crowd surfing incident.

"I went into the student section and some big guys picked me up," Craig said. "I ended up in the alumni section, where no one was into the whole crowd surfing thing, so I fell on a stack of chairs" Ouch.

"That's OK," Craig said. "It's just a part of the job."

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Test anxiety can produce low self-worth, high self-doubt

By LINDA RAMOS
Staff Writer

Test anxiety can be defined as an extreme sensation of stress experienced during a testing situation. In order to know how to reduce test anxiety, you first need to tackle the causes behind it.

Carol Kanar, in *The Confident Student*, lists two main causes of test anxiety. They are feelings of inadequacy due to lack of study preparation and viewing grades as a measure of self-worth.

Feelings of inadequacy due to ineffective study preparation can lead to self-doubt and lack of confidence. Students who study poorly at the last minute or do not study at all are prone to experience anxiety during test time. Other students feel anxious during exams because they view grades as a measure of self-worth.

For example, a student who gets a C on a test may believe he/she is just "average" and will never be an A student. This student may view an exam as another way to prove his/her self-worth is just "average."

A grade is a measure of performance for recalling, organizing



and evaluating material learned within a period of time. Grades are not determinants of how well you can perform in other areas of your life.

Once you have figured out your test anxiety's cause, work on eliminating it. If being unprepared is the cause, then the only way to eliminate this problem is to study.

Kevin Paul of *Study Smarter, Not Harder* suggests not to allow test anxiety to overpower you to your detriment but to take action against your fears by being well prepared.

What material will be covered on the test?

Start studying at least one week prior to the exam date. In *College Basics* by Martin and Peter Lunenfeld, students are advised to study difficult material early during study sessions.

Most students do just the opposite by procrastinating. So by the time they get to study the harder concepts, their energy levels and

motivation are at an extreme low.

The way not to attach a definition of self-esteem or self-worth with the kinds of grades you receive is to become highly conscious of the inner dialogue within you.

Don't say to yourself "I got a 73 percent on my exam again. I must be stupid or something because no matter how hard I try I just can't ever do better." Instead, take the grade as a challenge to learn from your mistakes in order to improve on the next exam.

Finally, a little bit of stress can be to your advantage. A little rush of adrenaline and nervousness can help you perform your best and get through test questions.

Reflect any anxiety felt during the exam to the exam to help you get through it. Let test anxiety work for you not against you.

Linda Ramos is associated with Full Student Services (FSS), which provides word processing/typing and research assistance to college students. Direct all correspondence to FSS, PO Box 622077 Oviedo, FL 32762-2077 or 407-525-3302.

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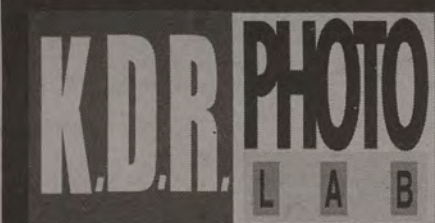
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Students protest big business with annual teach-in

By CHRISTINE TATUM
College Press Service

Bulletin boards never bothered Scott Gunsaullus until he went to Florida State University.

Once a harmless way to announce campus news, upcoming parties and apartment openings, they have become dumping ground for colorful, glossy ads hawking everything from credit cards to CDs and high-interest loans, he said. And the boards are filled with so many ads, Gunsaullus said, that there's little room to post anything else.

So, in the spirit of Teach-In — a student-led, grassroots effort aimed at challenging corporations' growing involvement in higher education — Gunsaullus decided to do something about them. With the help of a few friends, the junior political sci-

ence major stripped many boards of corporate advertising. Anything being sold to students by anyone other than students came down.

"That's what Teach-In is all about," said Gunsaullus, one of several students on his campus who participated in this year's event. "We have to let people know the power is in their hands to change what they don't like. Students have options and rights."

And many are tired of the growing influence big business is having on their education, said Ben Manski, a member of the Democracy Teach-In Council, an international coalition of student groups based at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. He said he is especially angered that the majority of his school's board of regents is made up of business leaders who were appointed by the

state's governor. When students recently learned that one of those regents was the governor's largest campaign contributor, Manski said they collected more than \$1,200 with hopes of bribing the governor into appointing a student to the board. (He didn't accept the money.)

"We want everyone to take a closer look at how corporations are using colleges and universities — even to the extent that they're affecting what kind of research is done," Manski said.

"Most decisions are made from the top down, and that's not a true democracy — especially when the decision makers have close ties to corporations. Are they really concerned about students, or do they want to use us to make money?"

Students at more than 120 universities in the United States and Canada posed similar ques-

tions at a wide range of events. At Harvard University, students listened to lectures on the growing impact corporations are having on the environment and medicine. Gunsaullus said students at Florida State invited independent food vendors into the student union to pass out freebies and show everyone that they don't have to put up with the high prices being pushed on campus because of Marriott's exclusive deal with the university. At York University in Canada, about 100 students barged into a board of regents meeting. After prompting the school officials to leave, students assumed their posts and voted to dissolve the board altogether.

"What they did probably won't (stick)," Manski said with a chuckle. "But it shows what a lot of us are thinking: Students don't get real representation."

School officials who have watched many of the events unfold say the students are asking important questions.

"It's not a bad issue," said Roger Howard, associate dean of students for the Madison campus. "I think everyone is concerned about finding the appropriate balance between state funding and a university's need to go out and find alternative sources of revenue."

More than 20 international activist organizations — including Earth First, the United States Student Association and Britain's Corporate Watch — sponsored many events. Manski said the number of teach-ins has grown dramatically since the idea was first conceived a couple of years ago.

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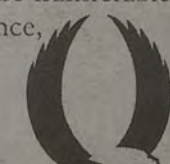
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Where do you think you're going? Not very far without a spring tune-up

By NEIL SIMON
College Press Service

Every spring it's the same old scene: Students who left their bicycles outside all winter start riding again as if the snow and sleet that frosted their wheels never fell.

Chains and brakes squeaking, they make their way through campus, hoping the sounds will disappear the more they ride. Bike experts, who do plenty of business this time of year, are already rolling out their annual sermons on maintenance.

"You wouldn't do that to your car," Rob Boi, owner of RRB Bikes in Evanston, Ill., told a student who had left his bike under snow and ice for three months.

"The sun comes out, and every-

body wants to get outside," Boi continued shaking his head. "Let's go have a picnic. Let's go to the beach. Let's ride a bike."

"Their bikes aren't ready."

Water left behind from winter snow and ice can loosen bearings and rust chains, trouble that isn't always obvious before a bike rider gets hurt.

"I was doing a few bunny hops, and (the bike) couldn't take the pressure," said Josh Horton, a sophomore at the University of Oregon, who fell on some pavement last month after riding a bicycle that hadn't been tuned up in awhile. "The front wheel shot out, and I fell on my face."

Even bikes left indoors can have problems when hitting the road for the first time in a long while.

"My friend thought he had an expensive bike, so he didn't have to maintain it," said Brad Philan, a student at Lane Community College in Oregon. "I rode it the other day, and the gears were grinding and wouldn't shift."

No bicycle, no matter how expensive, is immune from the need for a spring tune up, Boi said.

"Check the air in the tires, and at least oil the chain. These two things are major," he said. "They'll save a lot of wear and tear on the bike."

Bike shops typically oil chains and pump tires for free - tasks that take less than 10 minutes.

Even if your bike is in good shape mechanically, experts say there are still a number of things to do to keep yourself safe when

riding - and your bike safe when you leave it behind:

- 1. Buy a helmet. Comfort first, price second. If it doesn't feel good, don't buy it, because you'll never wear it. Find a comfortable helmet with a sticker indicating it meets safety standards. The sticker will tell you the helmet and its straps passed drop tests and strength tests. Average cost: \$35.

- 2. Wear the helmet correctly. Think safety, not glamour. A helmet is no use if it's worn like a baseball cap on the back of your head. The bottom of the helmet should rest just above your eyebrows. The straps should be tight enough so the helmet stays in position on your head.

- 3. Dress in light colors. Dark is bad, light is good. Reflective jackets are a bonus, but if you just wear white or bright colors people will see you.

- 4. Light up your bike. More lights, more safety. A flashing red taillight is more effective than relying on drivers to see

your little rear reflector. A flashing light can usually be seen from half a mile away. Average cost: \$20. A headlight will help make you see things, too. A halogen, battery-operated light will help you see everything in front of you before it's too late. Average cost: \$100-\$400.

- 5. Lock up your bike. Forget chain links, go for heavy metal. The U-shaped locks are best for locking your bike (frame and wheel) to any bike rack or pole. Some campus police stations offer these locks at the manufacturer's cost to their students. Average cost: \$35.

- 6. Lock your seat, too. Now that your bike is safe, you want something to sit on. Most bikes have a quick release seat, so unless you plan on bringing it to lecture with you, lock it up. A "seat leash" is one way to deter thieves. The "leash" is an 18-inch cable that bolts to the seat clamp and seat, and wraps around the bike frame. It stays on your bike all the time, so there's no hassle every time you park. Average cost: \$4.

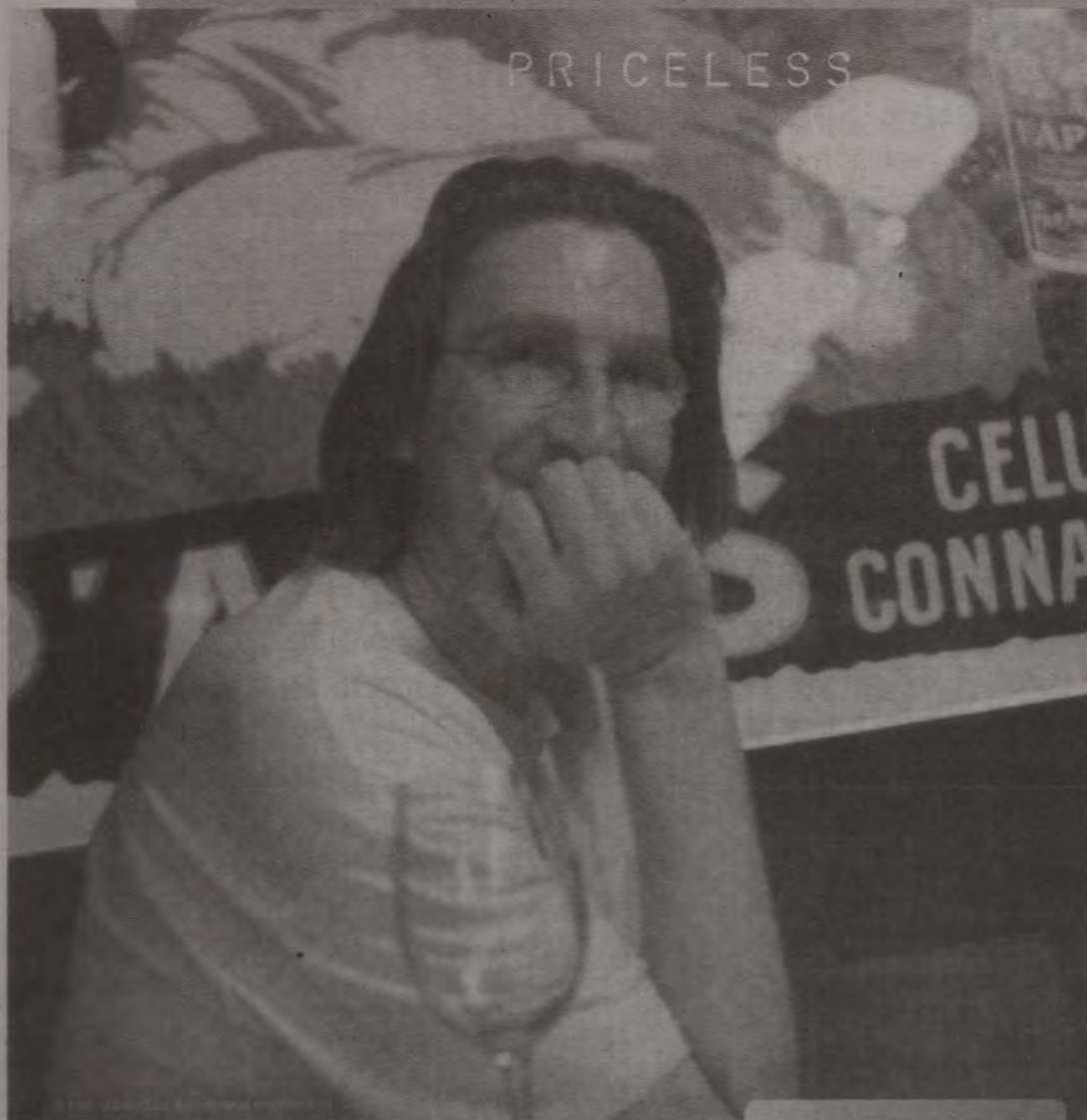
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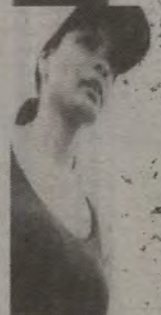
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Chuck Shepherd's NEWS OF THE WEIRD

LEAD STORIES

• In February, Cambridge (England) University researcher Fiona Hunter, who studied penguins' mating habits for five years, reported that some females apparently allow male strangers to mate with them in exchange for a few nest-building stones, thus providing what Hunter believes is the first observed animal prostitution. According to Dr. Hunter, all activity was done behind the back of the female's regular mate, and in a few instances, after the sex act, johns gave the females additional stones as sort of a tip.

• In March, trial began in Lesli Szabo's \$1.7 million lawsuit against a Hamilton, Ontario, hospital for not making her 1993 childbirth pain-free. Physicians said that painless childbirth cannot be achieved without the anesthesia's endangering the child, but Szabo said she expected enough comfort to be able to read or knit while the child was being delivered. She admitted to previous run-ins with physicians, explaining, "When I'm in pain, the (words) that come out of my mouth would curl your hair." After five days of trial, the parties reached an undisclosed settlement.

• David Samarzia, 44, who won a \$650,000 judgment against the Redeemer Lutheran Church in Duluth, Minn., as damages for being molested as a kid by former pastor Daniel Reeb, told reporters in February that since the church cannot pay the judgment, he most likely would take over the house of worship himself as payment and turn it into a place to help other sex abuse victims.

FAMILY VALUES

• Following the August death of

122-year-old French woman Jeanne Calment, Canadian Marie-Louise Febronie Meilleur, 116, was named by the Guinness Book of Records as the world's oldest person. In an interview with the Associated Press on that occasion, Meilleur said her hobby was finding a girlfriend for her 81-year-old son at the nursing home where they both reside.

• In November, Howard and Jean Garber of Anaheim Hills, Calif., announced that in spring 1998 they would have a grandchild despite their daughter Julie's having passed away a year earlier at age 28 from leukemia. Julie had harvested 12 eggs before undergoing radiation treatment, and after her death, her parents selected a father and surrogate mother, who announced on Thanksgiving Day that she was pregnant.

• While locked up in the Kerr County (Texas) jail in November, burglar Bill Wells, 40, met up with burglar Corey Hillger, 22, for the first time in about 22 years. Hillger is Wells' son. And in October near New Orleans, according to sheriff's deputies, George Francois, 72 and drunk, slammed his car into a vehicle driven by another drunken driver, his son, Roland Francois, 35. Both were hospitalized.

• In January in Union Township, N.J., Phyllis Klingebiel, who said she had always had a "close and loving relationship" with her adult son, Michael, filed a lawsuit against him after he refused to share the winnings on an October Pick 6 lottery ticket that paid \$2 million. According to Phyllis, the two had pooled \$20 a month each for tickets for more than 10 years, and Michael had called her after the

winning ticket was announced to say that "we" had won, but then the next day, he called his mom back to say that the winning ticket happened to be one that he had bought on his own.

I DON'T THINK SO

• At his trial in Fort Worth, Texas, in January, William Lee Monroe, 28, admitted he stole a gas stove from an apartment but denied responsibility for the resulting ruptured gas line, explosion and fire that sent two people to the hospital and injured three others. According to his lawyer, Monroe is too dumb to know that an open gas line is dangerous. "Stupid is as stupid does," said the lawyer. (Guilty anyway, said the jury.)

• Two days after Arthur Downey's arrest in Phoenix in October, during a drug bust in which an 8-year-old boy was detained as Downey's runner, Downey (whose age was not given but who is at least in his 20s) told the Arizona Republic newspaper that, actually, the boy was the boss and that he, Downey, was the runner.

• John Kieser, 45, was convicted in Philadelphia in January of carrying a weapon on an airliner. While a passenger on a US

Airways flight in August 1997, Kieser had uttered the word "hijack," which is illegal to do, but protested later that he was just responding to someone who had addressed him by saying, "Hi, Jack." A search of his carry-on bag revealed a flare gun and 17 fire-starting flares.

• In November, the police chief of New Haven, Conn., explaining why \$23,000 was missing from the police evidence room following an investigation into illegal gambling, said in a report that the money must have accidentally fallen into a garbage can and been thrown out. And Wells Fargo armored-car personnel David Faircloth and Steven Stepp reported that \$209,000 missing from their truck in Research Triangle Park, N.C., in December must have accidentally fallen out the open back door and that they don't know what happened to it.

WRONG PLACE, WRONG TIME

• According to a December report in PC Week magazine on the recent Comdex computer convention, the exhibitor Prescient Systems installed its new Gotcha video surveillance software to record the construction of its convention booth, as a tool to help

sell the software once the convention opened. During the night following the installation, two convention-hall guards, unaware that Gotcha was operating, broke into the Prescient booth and stole two boxes of Pentium chips. The guards were identified on Gotcha's digital tape and arrested the next day.

• People Who Should Have Kept a Lower Profile: Daniel Thorn, St. John, New Brunswick, on the lam for parole violation, was arrested at a Toronto Blue Jays game in September when he happened to take a seat a few feet away from his parole officer. And Steve Graves, Phoenix, behind in child-support payments, inadvertently revealed his whereabouts to his wife when he got his picture in the newspaper in November for publicly handing in \$23,000 that he found on the street. And Neil Ramirez, also behind with child support and moonlighting behind a beard as Santa Claus in December in Brooklyn, N.Y., saw his unwitting toddler-daughter wander up to his lap. The kid recognized him and yelled, "Daddy is Santa!" at which point the ex-wife grabbed some child-support paperwork from her purse and crammed it into Ramirez's Santa suit.

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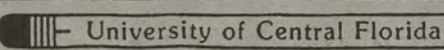
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OPINION

Pulled fire alarms are no laughing matter

By JASON HEIRONIMUS
Opinion Editor

Sometimes as college students we feel that it is our constitutional right to do stupid things. We go out at night and come home in varied mental and physical states and decide that it is time to let our presence be known. This has got to stop.

Recently at my place of residence there has been a rash of fire alarms being set off. This only occurs at the most inconvenient of times, like three in the morning. These kind of shenanigans, and that is exactly what they are, are exactly what gives college students a bad reputation. Why is there this need to cause a public disturbance in the middle of the night? Doesn't anyone have any respect for each other anymore?

The incident that has incited this column happened when a person decided to pull the fire alarm at four in the morning in my complex. I usually stay up late, but four in the morning is no longer late night, it is early

morning. I respect everyone's right to party, but when it infringes on my right to get a good night's rest that is when I get upset. But I have to give the person that pulled off this heinous crime some credit, he/she did a fantastic job. Not only was I violently thrown out of my deep sleep, I was very confused as to just exactly what country I was in and what my name was. I guess if you want to do a job, you do it right.

But what is the fascination with fire alarms? Is it because they are so convenient? They are perched on every wall with a lever that is screaming to be pulled. Or some of them have those glass cases around them with the bar that wants to break the glass so bad it hurts. I admit, I often feel the need to give in to these temptations just to see what it would feel like. But I think I know how I would feel. I would feel horrible for disturbing everyone and would probably fess up to my crime. So am I the only one with this sense of morality?

Pulling a fire alarm should

be equal to robbing a convenience store. But I think the latter offense to be the most serious. Let us think about what the thought process of an alarm puller is. First, in all likelihood they have to be intoxicated. This is an absolute for no one in their right mind would commit such an act sober. Second, they probably are not looking to pull the alarm but upon passing it the alarm begins to talk to them. "Please pull my little red lever, it's been so long since I've had the chance to stretch out. Plus, I'm so quiet all the time, I need to let my presence be known so that everyone can stop taking me for granted. But the best part is that after you do this for me, you can go tell your drunken idiot friends that you were the perpetrator of this crazy act and then you'll be the man!!!"

After this the drunken student is pretty much determined, after all they just had a one-sided conversation with a fire alarm. The drunkard then carefully outreaches his trembling arm in the direction of

the alarm, swearing that it is smiling back at him. With one last look of desperation he looks to the heavens and finds no response in return. He then proceeds to pull the lever, thinking that he is doing the alarm a favor, and then sprints away. All night he is the man, because, it is a crazy thing to do. But in the morning he is the village idiot who pulled the fire alarm, unwillingly pulling everyone back to the fourth grade frame of mind, when we were actually smart enough not to do such things

Of late I have been concentrating my columns on the stupidity of others. Pulling the fire alarm seems to fit right into this subject. I just don't understand how people can find enjoyment out of making others uncomfortable. My only conceivable answer to this question is stupidity. How can something that seems so ridiculous to the rest of us seem so enticing to the rest of them? And speaking of "them," who are they? I've never met any of these people. I'm not saying that everyone I know is

brilliant, but everyone that I have had the pleasure of encountering at UCF doesn't seem to fit into this category. So who are these people and where do they live and how do they find the reasoning to commit some of the acts that they do?

Maybe I am just getting too old for these kinds of college pranks. Or maybe I'm just lucky enough to not be among the stupid who find these acts humorous. But I would like to do something about the alarm pullers. If you are an alarm puller, let your opinion be known. Write me and tell UCF what your rationale behind your actions is. Maybe they are championing a cause. Maybe they are against silence. Or maybe they are against people who are smart enough not to do such things. The point is: I don't know. So write in and tell us how you feel. Make the rest of us ignorant people enlightened to the reasoning behind what you do. I know we can bridge the gap between us, so all you have to do is speak out.



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The Hope Scholarship not much hope for those in real need

By **MICHAEL LOGAN**
College Press Service

Becky Stephens is the kind of student who could benefit from the HOPE Scholarship, a new federal \$1,500 tax credit. The 28-year-old is raising three children while working toward a degree in psychology and special education at Millersville University in Pennsylvania.

Although she receives \$2,700 in grant aid and \$4,500 in student loans, it isn't enough for Stephens to attend classes while her husband, Danny, supports a family of five on an \$18,740 income. It has taken Stephens four years to complete half of her degree requirements. Because of tight finances, she has dropped out on three occasions and faces dropping out a fourth time. "It's like juggling live hand grenades," Stephens said.

Despite her predicament, Stephens doesn't qualify to receive a single dollar of the \$32 billion the HOPE Scholarship and its companion, the Lifetime Learning Credit, will hand out over the next five years. Because such financial assistance is based on the amount of taxes paid, the bulk of the aid goes to families earning between \$40,000 and \$80,000 each year, according to a report released by the Brookings Institution.

Few in the higher education community can tell with certainty the future of the national financial aid system, but both sides generally agree that the HOPE and Lifetime Learning Credit will not help low-income students like Stephens.

"It is true that most of the benefits would go to second and third-income parties (i.e. "middle class")," said Dr. David Longanecker, assistant secretary for postsecondary education at the U.S. Education Department. "We don't apologize for that."

Critics of tax-based ways of delivering aid fear it will compete with need-based systems of funding. They also argue that with the government backing such credits, colleges may be tempted to raise their prices.

The Clinton Administration disputes such claims, insisting that low-income students are already well served by existing financial aid programs. Middle-class families, the Clinton camp says, are the most neglected group when it comes to tuition assistance.

To curry favor with the middle class during his 1996 re-election campaign, President Clinton billed the HOPE Scholarship as a way to make two years of college "as universal as high school is today." He and Congress followed up with the passage of the 1997 Taxpayer Relief Act and the Lifetime Learning Credit. The act allows first and second-year students to collect a tax credit for up to \$1,500. The credit — which provides assistance for third- and fourth-year, graduate, and nontraditional students — is worth up to \$1,000 for tuition and fees paid after June 30. That figure is expected to climb to \$2,000 by 2003.

As Erica Adelsheimer, legislative director of the United States Student Association, sees it, the tax breaks in their current form are inequitable.

"We feel that if you're giving a \$1,500 benefit it should also go to low-income students," she said. But low-income students have plenty of help in the form of Pell grants to get them through a college's gates, Longanecker said. The problem, he said internal Education Department studies have revealed, is that many don't know they qualify for such aid. Education officials are hoping that as students learn they aren't eligible for HOPE scholarships, someone will steer them toward applying for Pell grants and other forms of need-based aid instead.

Though Pell Grant funding for fiscal year 1998 increased 24 percent to about \$7.4 billion, the grant's value has actually dropped 40 percent in inflation-adjusted terms since 1975. Higher-income students, however, are expected to receive an additional \$2.08 billion in new aid this fiscal year. By fiscal 1999, tuition tax credits will claim \$6.5 billion in federal revenue, a figure climbing

to \$7.4 billion by 2000.

Critics of tax-based aid fear it will begin to outpace need-based funding. Last year, trustees of The College Board said as much when discussions of HOPE drifted through congressional committees. They declared that tuition-tax credits should "not be allowed to substitute or reduce funding for need-based aid."

Given the Clinton Administration's current education budget proposal, there is evidence to indicate the trustees' apprehensions were not unwarranted. For 1999, the Administration has proposed increasing by \$100 the maximum Pell Grant award and overall funding by \$249 million. That represents 3.4 percent growth over the prior year — barely enough to keep up with inflation. In fact, it lags behind the average rise in college prices, which increased 5 percent last year.

Another longtime objection to tuition tax credits is that they may tempt schools, especially low-cost institutions, to raise tuition prices to capture more federal aid.

Take, for example, the case of Gretchen Lancero, a 23-year-old second-year student at Yuba Community College in Loma Linda, Calif., who is working toward a degree in dental hygiene. Lancero and her husband, Jeff, earn \$32,000 annually. Lancero pays \$13 per credit hour in California's community college system — a rate among the lowest in the nation. Still, she qualifies for a \$312-a-year HOPE Scholarship. Lancero could collect even more if California charged a higher rate for its community college tuition, thereby passing to the federal government a greater share of the cost to educate her.

Longanecker insists that state legislatures are not likely to risk political popularity by raising tuitions, and that private institutions subject to market pressures would find it difficult to raise prices without chasing students into the arms of competitors.

But in California, analysts already have recommended that state legislators consider raising tuition because, as one detailed report points out, the state would capture more federal aid. There is no indication yet of what California will do.

Expansion of need-based programs is a sure way to avoid tuition increases, said Lawrence E. Gladioux, director of policy analysis for The College Board. Because only a small population of students receive the Pell Grant, Gladioux said a school could not justify hiking prices to capture the cost. And given that an investment in the current system would extend more benefits to low-income students, why not put the \$32 billion earmarked for the HOPE Scholarship and the Lifetime Learning Credit into the Pell Grant? That's what Gladioux recommended last year when he testified before Congress. Along with the smaller programs — such as the Education IRA — about \$40 billion in education tax breaks were on the table, but little of that money went toward direct expenditures.

Between budget constraints and a conservative Congress, large-scale investment in the Pell Grant was unrealistic, Longanecker said.

"There wasn't any way to get a \$40 billion spending package," he said. "I had to be convinced of this. It became real apparent to me when [then White House advisor] George Stephanopoulos said 'You don't get it. We have to increase tax cuts, not spending.'"

That line of reasoning helped Clinton win his bid for re-election over Republican candidate Bob Dole, who touted a 15 percent, across-the-board tax cut. It also carried him through negotiations surrounding the fiscal 1998 budget.

The only government-run program Becky Stephens is counting on to help her out, she said jokingly, is the lottery. She doesn't complain about her inability to take advantage of the President's scholarship or the Lifetime Learning Credit because she says she has hope. Stroking the beads on a necklace her 8-year-old son, Josh, made for her in art class, Stephens said, "I believe that God gives you what you can deal with."

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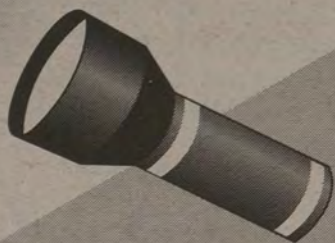
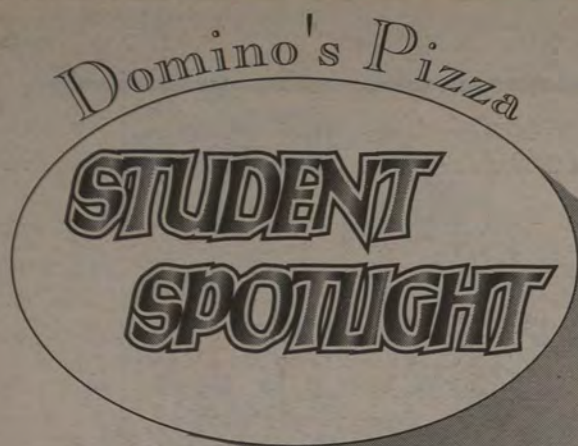
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By PETER KUNDIS

What does "Earth Day" mean to you and what is its global significance?



This day should be used by everyone, to sit down and look at what we can do to help the environment. It's also a time to just go outside and enjoy the earth.

— Damien Davis, Senior, Chemistry, Parkland.



Earth Day means a variety of different people and groups uniting for a common good. Its global significance is proving that we, as a people either can or can not put aside our differences to work together. I really hope we are able to come together and make a difference.

— Jamie Karpinski, Senior, AD/PR, Cocoa Beach.



One day a year we focus on the environment and what we can do for it. Earth Day reminds us that the planet we live on is very much alive, and if we don't take care of it we could destroy it. Sometimes we forget that, as we slowly destroy our planet we are also destroying our own home.

— Kyle Peltier, Junior, Health & Public Affairs, West Richland, WA.



Earth Day is a day which celebrates the beauty of our environment and signifies our commitment to saving our planet from ruin and utter destruction by human hands.

— Melissa Zelniker, Junior, Criminal Justice/ Legal Studies, Miami Beach.

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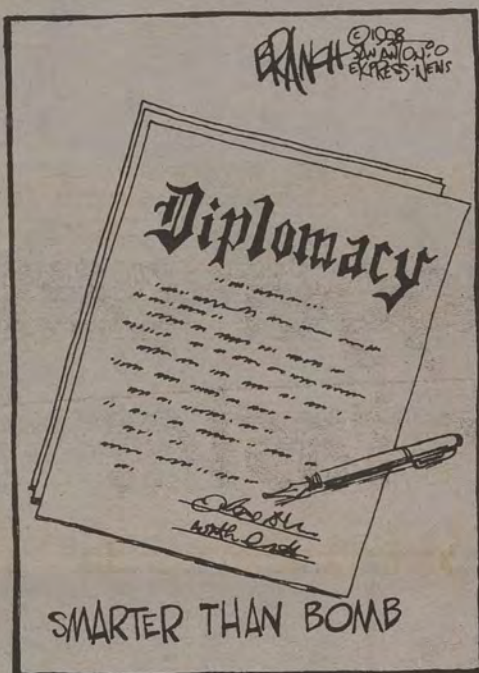
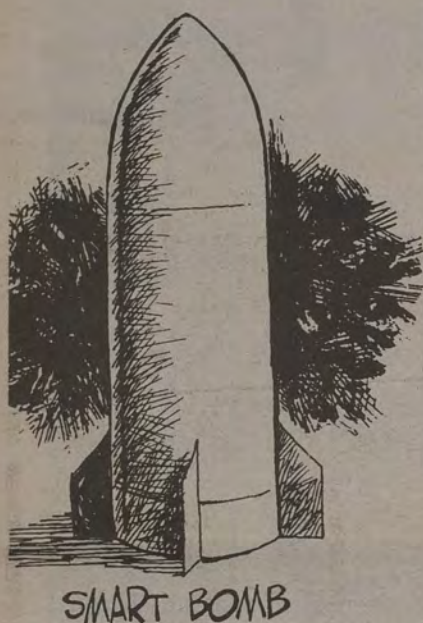
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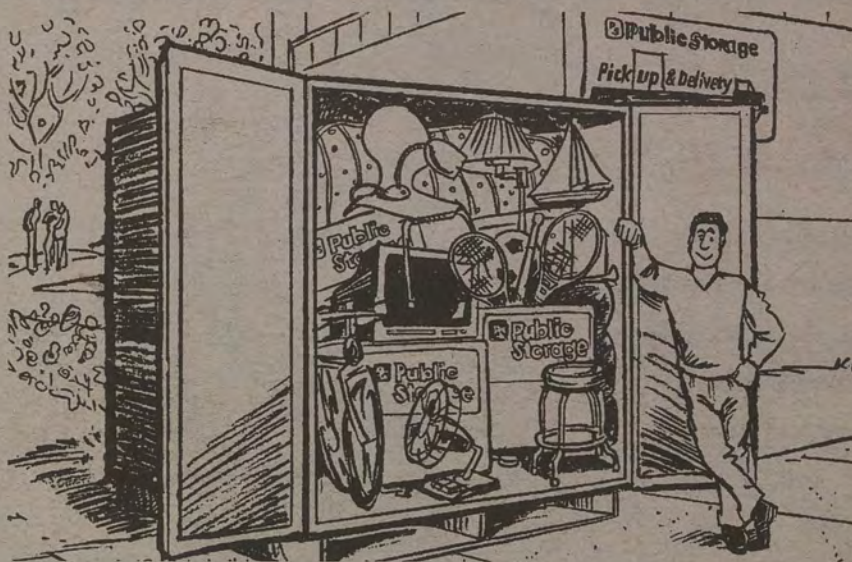
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UCF498

AS WITH ANY AGREEMENT, THE INEVITABLE TRANSLATION DIFFICULTIES OCCUR...



Gunshot fire leads to confiscation of cannabis

By ANNEMARIE MONTALI
Staff Writer

Police responded to a report of shots fired on campus on April 7. When they arrived, officers found a blue Chevrolet parked near a dirt mound where the shots were heard.

A male and female inside the car were approached. Police did not see any weapons, but a pipe, rolling papers and a small stem of cannabis were seen in plain view in the center console.

The items were confiscated and both people inside the car admitted to smoking the cannabis. The male was of age and was released. The female was a juvenile and was taken to UCFPD, where her mother was called to pick her up.

In other reports from the UCFPD:



Renee Martin-Culet, 19, reported someone attempted to enter her locked vehicle.

Martin-Culet parked her vehicle on campus on April 7 at about 10 p.m. When she returned at noon the next day, she noticed her locks had been tampered. Someone apparently used a slim jim to pry the passenger door open. The lock on the door was broken but no entry was gained. Martin-Culet is willing to prosecute.

Caleb Conley, 18, was arrested on April 8 for possession of alcohol under the age of 21.

Police observed Conley standing outside of Polk Hall with a beer in his hand at about 10 p.m. After being

approached, Conley began to run away from the officers. Officers chased him into a room in Polk Hall. Conley was then placed under arrest.

Jason Tauritz, 20, reported that he parked his Acura Integra on campus on April 3 at about 12:15 a.m. When he returned three hours later, he discovered someone had keyed his car.

Every panel was damaged except for the roof and trunk. Two insignia caps were also taken from Tauritz's car. The caps are valued at \$25.93 each. The damage to the vehicle is estimated at \$1,400.

Police responded to an alarm at the UCF Bookstore on April 5. When officers arrived, they noticed several flyers on the outside bulletin board had been set on fire.

The board was not damaged when officers patrolled the area the day before.

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ENTERTAINMENT

'City Of Angels' a romantic, powerful film

By **FOREST CRUMPLER**
Staff Writer

Director Brad Silberberg, who first came onto the cinematic mainstage with "Casper," makes an excellent transition into 'serious' moviemaking with "City of Angels." Based on the 1987 German film, "Wings of Desire," this U.S. adaptation stars Nicolas Cage ("Con Air"), Meg Ryan ("Sleepless in Seattle"), and Dennis Franz ("NYPD Blue") and mixes a cast of superb actors with stunning visual imagery to make one very touching and moving film.

The story centers around Seth (Cage), one of the countless angels who roam throughout Los Angeles observing people's lives, births, deaths, and even thoughts. After an eternity of watching humans, Seth begins to wonder what being human would be like. Seth is instantly transfixed by a human, Dr. Maggie Rice (Ryan), who manages to almost see Seth during a moment of despair after losing a patient.

Thinking that there was no reason for the patient's death, Maggie is overcome with doubt and guilt. Seeing this, Seth makes himself visible to Maggie in order to help her. Maggie is immediately attracted to this new stranger in her life, but she is afraid of her emotions for him, as she begins to fall in love with him. Seth too finds that he is falling for Maggie as well but knows that it is impossible because he is an angel.

All this changes when the two come in contact with one of Maggie's patients, Nathaniel Messinger (Franz), who can see Seth for



Nicolas Cage is Seth, an angel who falls in love with a doctor (Meg Ryan) and is willing to do anything to be with her in the romantic drama "City Of Angels."

what he is and tells him that there is a way for the two lovers to be together. Messinger shows Seth that he was an angel once and chose to give it up to become human, Seth finds that he has the choice to stay an angel or fall and become human. Confused at his new options, Seth turns to his friend and fellow celestial being, Cassiel, for advice. When Maggie finds out what Seth is and

what he would have to give up to be with her, she rejects him and runs off to marry her human boyfriend. Fearing the loss of his true love, Seth takes the plunge and falls to the depths of mortality.

Nicolas Cage is, as always, not only a master of facial expression but a uniquely talented and diverse actor as well. Meg Ryan, as well, does a fantastic job in her part, and she

and Cage work wonderfully together. They are able backed by great performances by both Dennis Franz and Andre Braugher, who plays Cassiel. "City of Angels" makes excellent use of some fabulous visual imagery, with great camera angles and some impressive scene setups. A very moving, romantic, and powerful film that is definitely worth seeing.

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LISTEN UP!

By SHANNON WRAY

Dimitri From Paris

Sacrebleu
(Atlantic Records)

After popping in this amusing French collection, I really fell in love with the flirty feeling it gave me. Dimitri has hit a spot in my soft, romantic heart and even those nay sayers that deny any foreign romance will truly be weak in the knees. When coupled with his classic ability to mix and match, Dimitri composes a beautiful musical adventure. On the back cover, there is a sincere letter from an endearing fan, who after listening & reminiscing

back to 1944, was "once again drawn by the mysterious charm of Paris, where romance awaits at every street corner." Come on now, with sentences like this describing the power of music, how can I even begin to tell you what "Sacrebleu" remotely sounds like. Well, here goes. Cut sixteen, "Un World Mysterieuse" uses violins to create the mood, while a sexy French whisper utters "Myysterious." Pretty sultry. Other tracks like "Reveries" feature the crackle of old style recorded music, complete with a sleek intro and deep enduring echoes. But, my personal choice, the one that I listen to repeatedly, is "Une Very Stylish Fille" or "I'm a very stylish girl." Yes it has soundbytes from some old time movie stars. The vixen like rhythm flows so naturally, that I really want to slip into something more comfortable, sway over to you and ask "How do I look?" One can only hope to get the same response that this little sex-pot did.



The Thompson Brothers Band

Blame It On The Dog
(RCA records)

This trio prides itself on it's ability to "push the envelope of country, while staying grounded in its roots." Well, I don't know if that would be my exact description. Their ability to "rock honky-tonks from Music City to Maine," isn't my idea of time well spent, but everyone's entitled to their own opinion, right? The first cut off of Blame It On The Dog, (Life's Too Short) begins with a quote that says it all. "I was born and raised in this one-horse town." That, to me, was the essence of this entire song and the next and the next and the next. The Thompson Brothers Band deserves credit for their attempt to stray from typical country, but they just couldn't get past the dull drum stories of their home towns. Andy Thompson, (lead vocalist/guitarist) swears that he "won't let {his} daddy's farm hold {him} down" and other stories feature daring attempts to undergo love repairs and such. The band got their start in the Boston suburb of Norwell where brothers Andy and Mass "cut their teeth playing along with their father's Willie Nelson 8-tracks." I can recognize their hard work, and "Blame It On The Dog," The Thompson

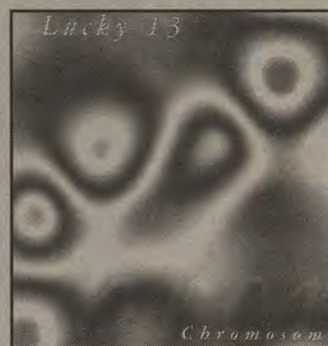


Brothers Band's third album spins an honest sound from the fabric of country music, however, I personally couldn't get involved in their stories, or their sound.

Lucky 13

Chromosome
(New Urth Records)

Lucky 13 was formed during mid-1996, right here in our hometown O-town. But I really don't think that this is just another local club band that just buzzes around downtown. Lucky 13 has some depth in their lyrics and



their sound that will take them far. The all but true track "20 Seconds" has already received local and national airplay, and the good word on Lucky 13 seems to be spreading fast. Once referred to as a combination of David Bowie and Soundgarden, their cocky fast talk/singing

is reminiscent of early Rolling Stones. However, like other talented bands, Lucky 13's sound is slightly altered, depending on the mood, the song, and the feel of that particular track. "20 Seconds" especially, shows off the bands ability to be real and entertaining at the same time. The type of charismatic atmosphere that makes you want to party with them after the show. With the story of a waitress (Jenny) and a romancer (John), the megaphone like narrator tells how "they got up, they got down, they went round and round; Jenny did it too soon; 20 seconds to love." There is also a secret track (13 of course) that contradicts this punk bands image of racing speed. Its a live-like, easy brush of the strings type song that dabbles in touches of sexy "friend" comments. I love these lyrics: "Impressed by your integrity, intrigued by your philosophy, I hope you like the company, cause I got nowhere else to be."

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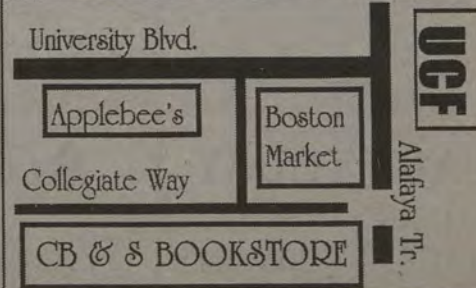
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Between a rock and a hard place

Aiguille: a great rush, workout

By GREGG HALKUFF
Staff Writer

Like most college seniors, I reached a point where I felt I didn't have any extra time to exercise other than opening and closing the fridge. It's true that I got lazy, but I was constantly looking for alternative ways to stay in shape. I decided long ago that I do not like to run (only when chased), and that I like to eat unhealthy foods too much to ever quit (still thin too). So over the last two years I have stayed in shape mostly by doing situps and pushups, occasionally. So when I was asked to go try indoor rock climbing I was really curious, and when I mentioned it to my roommate, he immediately called the hospital and reserved an ambulance. I do admit to being slightly accident prone (name a body part and I've broken it), but don't despair because there are places for us.

One of them happens to be indoor rock climbing, a safe and very challenging workout and adventure. I went to the Aiguille Rock Climbing Center in Longwood with mixed feelings and emotions. I am an adrenaline freak and have skydived and bungee jumped, so danger is not new to me (can you hear the James Bond theme music in the background?). I was excited to do something new and even more excited when I saw how safe it was. The best words for it is controlled emotional danger. They make you feel as if you are really climbing a dangerous mountain and you want so bad to make it to the top that you forget about everything else. You forget you are harnessed to a rope and that if you slip or can't go on you are completely safe because every climber has a person spotting them. Physically, you are not really in danger, but emotionally your nerves are taxed.

I consider myself a typical male in many



Photos by MERCEDES MCELMURRY
Get a good workout and gain some self-confidence, like these daring UCF students scaling away, at Aiguille Rock Climbing Center in Longwood.

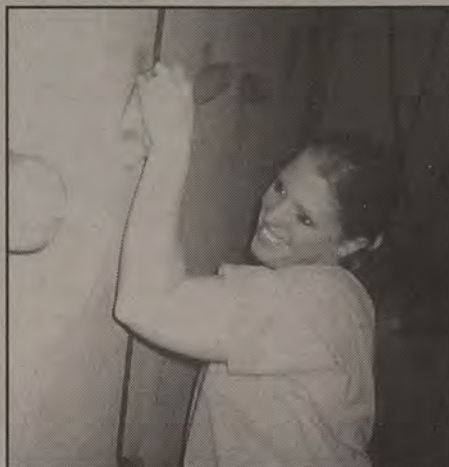
regards and I believe that sometimes not succeeding at something is way worse than getting hurt physically. Cuts and scars are signs of manliness, but failure and emotional pain is harder for us to take (we're men, love us or leave us). I had a really good experience indoor rock climbing. The instructor was excellent and concerned with safety first. I got a good workout, and I pushed myself physically and emotionally, while still having fun.

As a man, this place appealed to my macho, whip it out and put it on the table, personality. Oddly enough, it was not about competition but about individual perseverance. When I was up on the wall and couldn't find a place to put my feet I got pissed and frustrated. I was going to climb that wall if it killed me, but I knew it wouldn't, which is exactly the reason why I am going back.

Climbing teaches self-confidence

By MERCEDES MCELMURRY
Staff Writer

Rock climbing anyone? That's right, rock climbing in Central Florida. The Aiguille Rock Climbing Center in Altamonte offers



an indoor model of outdoor rock climbing. But don't think that means it's easier. The walls are designed to make you think and test your confidence.

New comers are started on the same introduction wall, where the instructor teaches you how to get into your harness, and tie the appropriate knots for safety. After practicing to tie knots and use the rope properly when going up and down the wall, the other person who's helping hold the rope also has to make sure they can lead you up the wall and bring you down safely. The introduction got me a little nervous, all this talk about not letting the rope go, and which way to hold it, was starting to worry me. I have never done anything like this before and I've spent most of my life in Florida, where there aren't very many rocks to climb, and bungee jumping and sky diving are out of my league at least for now. Getting into the gear was interesting. First you have these shoes, that are almost like karate shoes, not much to them, then this harness that attaches around your legs and waist, and then attached to that is a chalk bag, then you attach the rope. If you are the one responsible for holding the other

person while they climb, you have to attach yourself properly to the other side of the rope. This is where trust comes in. If you trust the person who literally has your life in their hands, you are good to go.

Now, I will admit, I was a little afraid of heights. The first time climbing was a little scary, especially when I looked down and realized that I was just being held up by one rope and a harness. And believe me, when I say that the harness is not all that comfortable, especially when you are coming down the wall: MAJOR wedgie time. Needless to say I didn't venture to the top. But, with less apprehensions than the first, the second time was actually fun, it gave me a lot of self-confidence, I just thought to myself, "I'm going to do this," and to the top I went. I never thought I would be doing anything like this and it was great.

It was good exercise not only for your body but for your mind as well. Rock climbing is a thinking game, you have to plan where you are going to move to next. Each wall has a different level of difficulty and thinking strategies, and some walls you don't even use harnesses with. I did attempt to free climb, but the hard part was getting down, without a harness. I wouldn't say that this is easier for boys than girls or vice versa. If you think you can, it doesn't matter what sex you are. There were several girls doing better than some of the guys. I really enjoyed myself, and anyone would, whether you are looking for something fun to do for exercise or just feel like building your self-confidence, check this place out.

Aiguille Rock Climbing Center is open seven days a week in Longwood and provides all the equipment and training you need when you arrive. Monday is student day, which includes unlimited climbing and gear rental for ten dollars. For exact prices and directions, please call 332-1430.

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The first bone that moves when the music hits

By MICHAEL J. CHRISTOPHER
Staff Writer

I met with the members of Groove Bone at a local pub during a trip to examine it's layout and meet with the manager to discuss a potential show there. Over a quick meal I had a round table discussion with guitarist David G. Rankin, bass player Rick Navarro, and drummer Eric Frates.

CFF: How old was your mom when you were born?

David: 43. My mom's 70.

Eric: Small fact to add, he's one of eleven.

David: The youngest of eleven.

CFF: How about your influences?

Eric: My influences? Tower of Power, anything funky, anything nasty that's got a little bit of stench coming from it.

David: James Brown, gotta give props to the Godfather. Next, and certainly not least, I love Badlands and Stevie Ray Vaughn, Allman Brothers, and...

Eric: Funkadelic.

CFF: And the bass man?

Rick: Beatles, Steelhand, Rush, Led Zeppelin.

David: Earth, Wind, and Fire, don't forget them. We love Earth, Wind, and Fire.

CFF: Tell me about Groove Bone. What's it mean? Where'd the name come from?

David: Okay, Groove Bone, is simply defined, as the first bone that moves when the music hits you. You see you got the groove thing going on, okay, and then you got the bone. Now I happen to be the groove side of the bone, and my boys here, the Fright Train, and Slick Rick, happen to be the bone, because every single body has the backbone to it, and the Groove Bone got it's backbone. it's tight here, sitting at this table.

CFF: Have you worked with Puff Daddy yet?

Eric: No! And if I have anything to say, he will never redo any of my songs!

David: you know, unless he pays us a lot of money.

Rick: I listened to Puff Mommy once, and that's all I needed.

CFF: How do you market yourselves?

David: Basically we have our own production company, Bone-a-fied Productions. Any time we step out on a gig, Bone-a-fied provides the PA, as well as through that company we set up our accounts through the local radio stations, with the local clubs and secure their monies and our monies to go out and do the promotions. We do it on a gig to gig basis, based on who's in town and what kind of clubs we're showcasing at. the clubs that allow us to showcase our own music are going to get a lot of good promotion from us because they're allowing us to come in and play our original stuff.

Eric: Basically we keep it real. We go in and let our music talk for us and we don't have to call them back. We get called.

CFF: You have your debut CD available right now. Where can someone find it?

David: You can find it at all Peaches locations, at the Groove Tube in Melbourne and Cocoa Beach, you can also find it at Waxtree here in Orlando, Music 4 Less in Kissimmee,

and soon at Jani Lane's Sunset Strip, and SOON all over the world baby!

CFF: What's the best thing about being in a band?

Rick: Best is getting to play live and getting the reaction from the audience.

Eric: Knowing that I'm using my God-given talent to do what I love and still making money to survive in this world, because some people aren't as fortunate, having to dig ditches or going to college for eight years...

Rick: Whooo! Pointing the finger at Michael!

Eric: No, I just thank God for my talent.

David: Writing songs that change peoples lives.

CFF: And what's the worst thing about being in a band?

Eric: When you're sick. Stay home, and nobody comes in, and there ain't much bad about it. When you're in a band you're usually with your brothers and they're gonna carry you when you're down. Else than that, it's just that sometimes society looks down upon that as not a career, more like a hobby, and

it's very much real to all of us, it's terrible that we have to answer for it.

David: Worst thing about being in a band is not being able to read people's minds.

Rick: Smoke, being in a place that's full of smoke. Dealing with unpredictable people, and when you're in band it's like a marriage, there are ups and downs, so you just have to treat it carefully.

CFF: Pop quiz - How many bones in the human body?

Eric: 236!

Rick: Whooo!

CFF: How many bones in a Groove Bone?

David: Only one, baby.

Eric: I thought it was like eight or nine?

David: Only one groove in the Groove Bone, you see it's two words! groove and bone.

Groove Bone can be seen and heard this month on 4/14 and 4/28 at Sloppy Joe's, 4/17 and 4/18 at Sunset Strip, and 4/24 and 4/25 at The Green Parrot.

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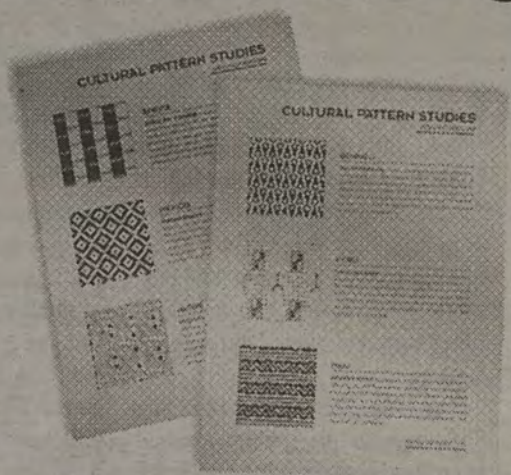
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Cookbook is a taste of Orlando

By HENRY SPRINGS
Staff Writer

Book review

With the barrage of specialty and celebrity cookbooks that are filling local book stores you may find yourself in need of something special to lead you around Central Florida or possibly through your own kitchen with authentic recipes. Although Central Florida doesn't have a Wynona's or a Four Seasons it has some well established restaurants with unique atmospheres and cuisines to sample. One of Central Florida's little secrets is a volume of signature recipes from 50 of Central Florida's best restaurants, "Restaurant Secrets."

"Restaurant Secrets" premiered on local book store shelves on March 13th. It offers a large selection of entrees from restaurants in Orlando and surrounding areas including Lake Buena Vista, Winter Park, and Cocoa Beach, just to name a few. It's a colorful volume complete with photographs and simple instructions on how to prepare simple and sometimes elaborate signature dishes. There are also phone numbers and addresses, if you'd like to make reservations to expand your horizons.

The names and selections run the gamut. Max's Grille offers a recipe for a whole grilled snapper stuffed with rosemary and lemon. La Crepe En Hait offers a bistro la crepes bouillabaisse. Or you may prefer something a little more mundane like clam chowder from Cape May Cafe. Whatever your tastes, seafood, pork, mushrooms, zucchini, chicken, pasta, and vegetable dishes, there will be something for you to try.

Entertainment Publications, who put the book together, is hoping to cash in on it's success and subsequent additions possibly featuring the best soups, appetizers, or desserts. More than 650 community groups and 230 schools throughout Central Florida have benefited from 2.4 million dollars raised during the last three years by Entertainment Publications. Sales of the cookbook will go towards raising the additional one million dollar goal. Last year and this year's funding will go towards benefiting school technology rooms, playground/nursery equipment, transportation vehicles, seeing eye dogs, youth homes/building funds, and much, much more.

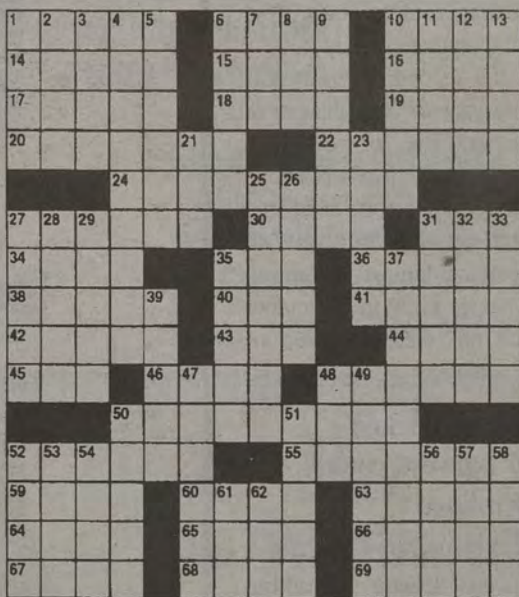
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- 16 Top-notch
- 17 Covers, in a way
- 18 Friend in need
- 19 Express a choice
- 20 No less than
- 22 It may be Spanish
- 24 Estranged
- 27 Desired greatly
- 30 Like cheese
- 31 Scores: abbr.
- 34 Car
- 35 — la la
- 36 White heron
- 38 Active pastime
- 40 Table scrap
- 41 Faced the day
- 42 Past, present or future
- 43 Murray or West
- 44 Nora's pet
- 45 Come to understand
- 46 Aid in crime
- 48 Strengthen
- 50 Kept in mint condition
- 52 Swamp
- 55 Most uncanny
- 59 Teheran's place
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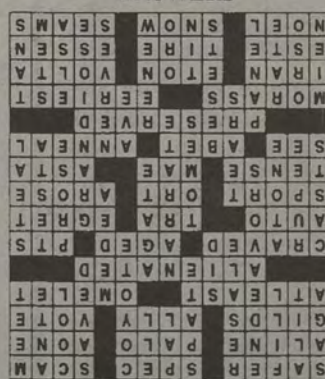
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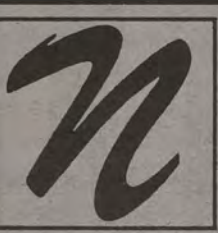
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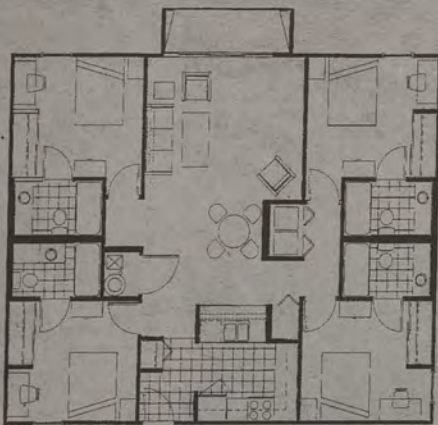


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NATION

Kappa Sigma fraternity charged with numerous violations

COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

BATON ROUGE, La. — Louisiana State University officials have charged members of Kappa Sigma with several violations of school policies after the fraternity threw a "barnyard party" during which members allegedly killed animals, paid strippers to perform, served alcohol to minors and scrawled derogatory phrases on the clothing of women in attendance.

Members must now decide whether they are going to contest what university officials have called "serious offenses" or face punishment as decided by a school administrator or judicial board made up of school officials, faculty members and students.

Before hosting the event, the fraternity filed appropriate paperwork with the university and was explicitly told that no alcohol or live animals would be allowed — terms the fraternity agreed to live by, said Kelly Brady, a spokesman for the university's office of Greek affairs. The annual party, held March 14 in the fraternity's on-campus house, happened during the university's alcohol awareness week. People at the party reported to school officials that a chicken was killed after someone stepped on it, and a goat was injured and then killed. Witnesses said strippers appeared early in the afternoon and fraternity members served alcohol to high school students.

The university's director of Greek affairs broke up the party after hearing rumors about what was going on there, Brady said. This is the second fraternity this academic year to face charges of misconduct. The Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity was suspended indefinitely earlier in the academic year, charged with 86 counts of liquor-law violations stemming from a pledge event in September at which one freshman died of alcohol poisoning.

Professors blocked timber harvest, could be disciplined

PITTSBURGH, Pa. — A Pennsylvania senator is barking about two University of Pittsburgh professors who helped block a timber harvest from a national forest.

State Sen. Bill Slocum has asked the university to discipline law professors Jules Lobel and Bill Luneburg for helping an environmental group delay a 5,000-acre harvest from the Allegheny National Forest in northwestern Pennsylvania that was scheduled for this summer and fall. A judge will decide whether the timber can be sold after the U.S. Forestry Service conducts an environmental impact study due for release in October.

Slocum maintains that Lobel and Luneburg — who work for a partially state-funded school — acted in conflict of interest when they

took the case. Their work, Slocum has said, prevented four counties from collecting \$2.7 million from the timber sale. As a result, Slocum says those taxpayers may be hit with property tax increases.

Lobel and Luneburg, who represented the Allegheny Defense Project for free, said they consider their work an act of community service.

"Law school professors are encouraged by the American Bar Association to do pro bono work," Lobel said. "I think that's all we've done here."

Luneburg said Slocum has "beaten this horse until there's nothing left but individual atoms floating around."

University officials have not disciplined the professors, and it's still

uncertain whether they will, school spokesman Ken Service said.

"The university recognizes and understands that this is a complex issue," Service said.

In light of the controversy, school officials are revising university guidelines stating under what conditions faculty members may perform free services or accept outside work.

NCAA To Pay Tarkanian \$2.5 Million

FRESNO, Calif. — The National Collegiate Athletic Association announced April 2 that it will pay men's basketball coach Jerry "The Shark" Tarkanian \$2.5 million to settle a lawsuit in which he alleged the association had conspired to bounce him out of college basket-

ball.

Tarkanian, who now coaches at California State University at Fresno, filed the suit six years ago, shortly after he was forced to resign from the University of Nevada at Las Vegas. The NCAA twice put the men's basketball program on probation for violations that happened under Tarkanian's supervision.

Even before his arrival in Nevada, Tarkanian and the association had been at odds. After Tarkanian left a job he'd held from 1968 to 1973 at California State University at Long Beach, the association put the school on probation citing several violations it claimed happened under his watch.

Tarkanian filed one suit against the NCAA in the 1980s, accusing

the association of not allowing him due process throughout its investigations. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1989 that the association is not a government agency and therefore not bound by the constitutional provisions of due process. But that didn't stop Tarkanian from again filing suit in 1992. In the lawsuit, the coach claimed the association was conspiring to wreck his career. The case was scheduled for trial next month in Nevada — a state where Tarkanian, who led UNLV to the national men's college basketball championship in 1990, is still very popular.

The association tried to have the trial moved elsewhere, but did not win approval from the courts — rulings that may have influenced the NCAA to settle the case.

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Knights try for better showing against FIU

From PAGE 28

The final, costly error on defense came when center-fielder Esix Snead overran a single, allowing the Hatter's Trey Parker to score the game-winning run from first. Stetson, which entered the game with a 6.25 ERA, shut-down UCF over the last three innings, allowing only senior outfielder Will Croud's single in the sixth.

"We got the lead early, but just didn't do the things to keep it," said freshmen first baseman Matt Bowser, who went 7-for-11 with two home runs in the series. "We didn't keep hitting, scoring runs and playing defense and that's why [we lost]."

Reliever Jason Arnold (1-2), who struck out four in two innings, took the decision after entering in the sixth and letting the two runners he inherited to score and giving up the unearned run off Snead's error. Held pitched five innings, striking out five while allowing six hits and six runs, four earned.

The offense, fairing better than the defense, scored 31 runs against the Hatters. Senior shortstop Eric Riggs had the best single-game hitting performance in school history in the opener, going 6-for-6 with a home run, two doubles, four RBIs and four runs scored. Riggs' big game highlighted the team's season-best, 26-hit game. Eight different batters had multi-hit games, including six with at least three.

The Knights' defense allowed five unearned runs in the win, however, as the teams combined for eight errors.

"Friday night [UCF coach Jay] Bergman and I just shook our heads and said that was

ugly," Stetson coach Pete Dunn said.

UCF had 22 hits in 13 innings Saturday, led by Bowser's four hits and team-leading 10th home run.

Senior Matt Lubozynski (4-1) won the third game, 9-4, in pitching his first complete game of the season. He allowed 10 hits, four runs, three earned, and recorded four strikeouts. Lubozynski held Stetson catcher Sammy Serrano, who entered the game with a .500 average, hitless in his first three at bats. Serrano hit doubles in the sixth and seventh innings, but UCF was ahead.

"You can't go into a game focusing on one hitter because all of the hitters can give you problems," Lubozynski said. "You're going to get most hitters out seven out of 10 times, so you can't worry about one hitter."

Looking ahead: UCF travels to Miami to face Florida International April 17-18 after playing midweek games at South Florida (April 14) and against Bethune-Cookman College (April 15), which is coming off a 13-1 loss at top-ranked Miami on April 12.

The Knights lost two of three at home the last time it faced the Panthers. UCF and FIU are tied for first in the TAAC South Division at 6-3, so this weekend could determine who will win the division's No. 1 seed for the conference tournament in early May. The Panthers have won seven of their last nine regular-season meetings with the Knights.

"We have to approach the [FIU series] one game at a time," Bergman said. "We have to go down there and play hard and make some things happen



Photo by MICHAEL CHRISTOPHER
Stetson right fielder Tim Parker slides by UCF catcher Erik Johnson for the winning run in the Hatters' 7-6 victory on Saturday.

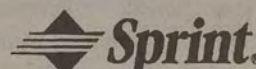
for us."

Stetson Notebook: Freshman outfielder Darryl Stephens hit the first home run of his career in the fifth inning of the series finale. ... Arnold's ERA was 0.43 heading into the home series with FIU April 3-4. After giving up Serrano's three-run home run on Friday, his ERA stands at 2.05. "He's a freshman," Bergman said. "He's still trying to strike out every batter." Arnold has 31 strikeouts in 26.1 innings. ... Bergman rested senior starter Todd Bellhorn (8-0, 1.70 ERA), who is three wins away from tying the school's record for a season, in order to give the two-way player's arm a break. Bellhorn has played in right field for 40 games and pitched 53 innings. Bellhorn still played outfield in all three games. He had three hits in the series opener and a pair of RBI singles in the third game. ... Starter Chris Miller pitched in Bellhorn's place, allowing seven runs, four

earned, and six hits in four innings. ... Rigg's career day pushed his batting average over .400, but it dropped to

.394 after he went 2-for-8 in the doubleheader. Riggs leads the team with 20 doubles and 47 RBI.

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Men's team shoots final-round 310

From PAGE 28

34th with a 10-over-par 226. Simon Sainz finished 45th with a 12-over par 228. The tournament featured nine SEC schools, plus Florida State, Memphis and UCF.

The Knights play in the TAAC Championships April 20-21 in Atlanta, Ga.

Education alumni golf tourney set

The UCF College of Education Alumni Chapter will hold its annual scholarship golf tournament on April 17 at Ekana Golf Club.

All proceeds benefit scholarships for UCF students pursuing a career in education.

In addition to golf, participants receive free use of the driving range, goodie bag, lunch, beverages on the course, barbecue dinner and are eligible for awards.

Cost is \$60 for students and \$75 for all others. Cost is \$12 for people who wish to eat dinner only. Hole sponsorships are also available.

The four-player, shotgun scramble event begins at 1 p.m. Registration starts at noon.

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Transfer RB scores 3 touchdowns

From PAGE 28

make. It's the officials' call, so I let them make it. I'm glad they made it the way they did."

After some deliberation the officials upheld the touchdown call, claiming Thorpe was never touched. Thorpe completed the two-point conversion to wide receiver Charles Lee to stretch the lead to 43-40. The game ended with Culpepper running out of time in his own territory.

"I talked to the officials before the game and told them that both quarterbacks were not to be hit. If they're tagged, they're down. Obviously, (official) Kevin Williamson didn't see it that way," Black team coach Mike Kruczek said. "Jeff Fye could've ripped his head off, but I'm glad he didn't. He did what I told him to do, and that's not hit him. It was a good show, at least, and we got through it without many injuries."

Culpepper and the Black team took command early, with running back Daryl Jones scoring the first of his three touchdowns on the opening drive. The Gold team answered on its first play from scrimmage as coach Paul Lounsberry called for a reverse pass that resulted in a 70-yard touchdown heave from Lee to Mark Nonsant. Culpepper led his Black squad to scores on all five of its first-half possessions, running in the final score from six yards out with 18 seconds left to put his side up 33-14 at the half. After the Gold got a 45-yard scoring pass from Thorpe to Kamal Shaheed, Jones punched it in from two yards out, giving the Black a seemingly insurmountable 40-21 lead.

"We were out of sync early," Thorpe said. "They did a super job of eating the clock so it took us a while to get going. Once we got the ball rolling at the beginning of the third quarter, we never stopped"

Running back Mike Grant scored his second

touchdown on a 20-yard pass over the middle to pull within 13. Thorpe then culminated an 11-play, 72-yard drive, the longest of the day, by diving in from the 1-yard line to draw the Gold within five. Culpepper finally came out of the game, giving way to junior transfer Kelvin Robinson. Robinson didn't attempt a pass, keeping the ball on the ground to kill the clock, but a fumble at the 42-yard line gave the Gold a chance to complete the comeback.

"We should've won the game. It was a fluke at the end and they all know that," said Black team tight end Blake Thames. "We'll kid each other about it. Even though it was a competition we're all a team. It's all in fun."

Gold assistant coach Sean Beckton said: "The drafting of the teams told us it was going to be an evenly matched game."

"We get bragging rights. We rag each other throughout the week about this game, but it's really a reward to all the kids who have busted their butts all spring," Beckton added. "Culpepper guaranteed he was going to win this one, and we were going to do our best to make it hard for him. They put it on us early, but we hung in there and never laid down."

The game is especially meaningful for the two senior quarterbacks. It gives Thorpe a 2-0 advantage over Culpepper in head-to-head battles, something that Thorpe isn't going to let Culpepper forget anytime soon.

"I've been trying to keep my mouth shut because I was wanting to win this last one before I started talking. Splitting with him would not have done me any good, but now that I've beaten him both times I can hold it over his head," Thorpe said. "I hope he makes it to the NFL Hall of Fame, so I can give him a hard time about it until we die."

Running back happy to be back in Florida

From PAGE 28

coach Mike Kruczek, Jones chose East Carolina for several reasons.

"UCF already had Marquette Smith and Gerod Davis and they had just signed Mike Grant," Jones said. "They were still a Division I-AA school and I had I-A offers from ECU, Georgia and Tulane and it was mainly a best type thing."

After a season at ECU, Jones followed his recruiter and then-Pirates offensive coordinator Todd Barry to ISU, where Barry became head coach. Despite a successful season, the cold

needed next season.

"He's a lane changer, he's tough to tackle, he can stop on a dime," Kruczek said. "He can catch the football well and make things happen after he catches it. People will key on our wide receivers down field, so we've got to be able to drop the ball off and when we do, good things happen."

Jones needs to improve his breakaway speed, Kruczek said, something Jones knows all too well.

"It's a never-ending quest to work on my speed," Jones said. "All my life, I grew up running summer track and I could never get as fast as the other guy. I think all the speed workouts then transferred into quickness. I don't have blazing speed, but I do all right."

Jones said he wants to continue to impress the coaching staff and is not concerned about who the starting tailback is. But Jones said he already has made an impression on his biggest fans, his admirers.

"I want my little cousins and people that look up to a student-athlete to see a hometown product," Jones said.

"It was a big thing to me when I came home because I did it largely so people can see what happened to me after high school.

A lot of times, people graduate from high school and you never hear from them again until they're back home working in the convenience store

Jones led all players in the annual Black and Gold scrimmage in yards (68) and touchdowns (3) last Saturday. He also had 20 yards on four receptions and should bolster the Knights' ground game in 1998.

"He's a great athlete," said quarterback Daunte Culpepper, Jones' teammate on the Black squad. "He's got great feet, great vision when he has the ball. I think he'll be a tremendous positive for this offense, no doubt."

Kruczek, who describes Jones as a quick, slashing back, said Jones' receiving ability will be

"UCF already had Marquette Smith and Gerod Davis and they had just signed Mike Grant. They were still a Division I-AA school and I had I-A offers from ECU, Georgia and Tulane and it was mainly a best type thing."

— Daryl Jones
Senior running back



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UCF offense gains high praise

Sure, blitzing was prohibited, the quarterbacks were down by contact, and zone defense against a pair of senior quarterbacks would normally spell disaster, but 791 yards and 83 total points were eye-popping reminders of how potent the offense can be.

"You put all that talent you saw on the field, even without Burley, who couldn't get out there today, and this offense is awesome," Coach Mike Kruczek said. "They could be the best offense in the country. I really believe that."

Quarterback Daunte Culpepper will be the trigger man in the offense, but backup Jason Thorpe has proved he can be a worthy replacement at a moment's notice. Michael Grant, Daryl Jones, and Eddie Mack will all see time at tailback. The receiving corps are

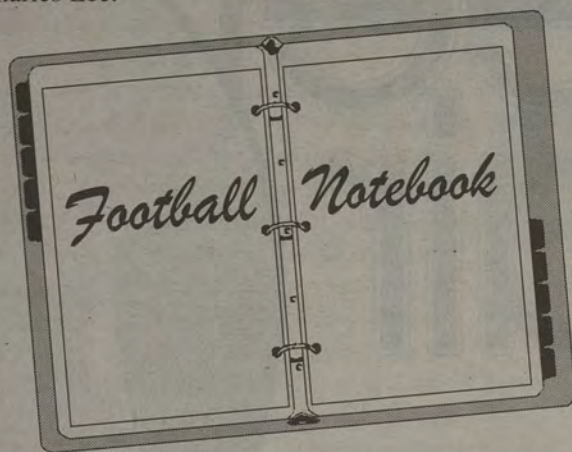
even more impressive, featuring Burley, Mark Nonsant, Kenny Clark, Tavirus Davis, tight ends Blake Thames and Joey Hubbard and the fast-improving Charles Lee.

"Lee hasn't been stopped all spring," Kruczek said. "If this offense works hard, they will be something special."

Spring game features position changes

The Black and Gold game showed

fans a glimpse of what they can expect this fall when the Knights take the field. It also featured a glimpse at the unexpected—



players trying out new positions. Included in the fun was a former basketball forward at wide receiver in Tony Marlow, a cornerback at wideout in Paul Miranda and quarter-

back Tyson Hinshaw also giving wide receiver a try. Hinshaw caught a pass from Jason Thorpe for a 34-yard gain, which drew praise from Kruczek.

"That really surprised me that they

put Hinshaw in at wide receiver," Kruczek said. "He did a great job. He may have to move there permanently. He'll play a lot out there. He's got a spot."

Daryl Jones, who made an impression at tailback with a game-high 68 rushing yards and three touchdowns, also doesn't care where he plays as long as he's out there.

"Whatever coach wants to do with me, I'm fine with it," Jones said. "I don't care if I'm third or I'm sixth, or put me on the line, whatever. Just let me play."

With Jones solid play and fullback Joe Field leaving the team this spring, UCF will use Dwight Collins at fullback. Collins will compete with Page Sessoms and Dossy Robbins for the first-team position.

— TONY MEJIA

SPORTS Weekly

wednesday 15

Baseball vs. Bethune-Cookman College, UCF Baseball Complex, 7 p.m.

thursday 16

Women's and men's tennis at the TAAC Championships, Macon, Ga.

friday 17

Baseball at Florida International, Miami, 7 p.m.
Women's and men's tennis at the TAAC Championships, Macon, Ga.
Track and Field at the TAAC Championships in Miami, Fla.

saturday 18

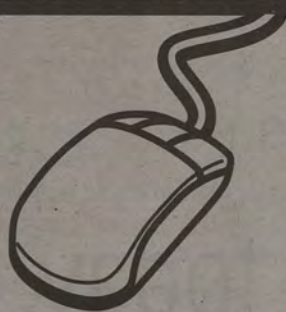
Baseball at FIU, double-header, 1 p.m.
Women's and men's tennis at the TAAC Championships, Macon, Ga.
Track and Field at the TAAC Championships in Miami, Fla.

sunday 19

Women's and men's tennis at the TAAC Championships, Macon, Ga.

monday 20

tuesday 21



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Thames creating playing time for himself

By **TONY MEJIA**
Staff Writer

When Blake Thames signed his national letter of intent with UCF, it was as an honorable mention all-state quarterback from West Palm Beach Forest Hills High School. He knew school's like Ohio State, Ole Miss and UCF weren't recruiting him to throw the ball, but rather to fill the much valued position of athlete, which is coach speak for good enough to play somewhere.

Thames play so far this spring is assuring that he'll have some place to play, but it wasn't that long ago that Thames still harbored hopes of playing behind center. In fact, he was determined to transfer if he had to.

"Before spring started I still wanted to be a quarterback. When I asked Coach Kruczek about it, he told me to give tight end a try. At that point I was ready to transfer," Thames said. "Now that I made the switch, I think it is the best place for me. I have no regrets about giving up quarterback. I think I have a big future at tight end."

Kruczek and his staff sure hope so. Thames has received extensive playing time at tight

end despite being at a lighter weight (He is currently 6-foot-2, 215 pounds) than his position demands. In the Black and Gold game, Thames was one of Daunte Culpepper's favorite targets, catching six passes for 62 yards.

"I think we've definitely made the right decision with Blake. In the back of his mind initially in the spring, we he wanted to try quarterback, but I made things clear," Kruczek said. "I said 'No, under no circumstances are you going to play there,' so he's made up his mind that he's going to play elsewhere. He's that kind of young man and he's going to make himself into a fantastic tight end."

Thames has been nothing if not boorish in his pursuit of a place to play, and looks like he'll make his mark at tight end. Thames entered college last year at a mere 198 pounds, but he has consistently added pounds since moving to tight end last year and he is promising more.

"I'll just have to put on more weight to play there. I figure I need to put on about twenty more pounds," Thames said. "I'm hoping to fit in well with the receiving corps, keep improving, and show what I can

do."

Thames has shown glimpses of his ability with his performance in the Black and Gold game and in organized scrimmages. In the second spring scrimmage on April 4, Thames caught five passes for 90 yards and a touchdown. He combines speed with power, often dragging defenders for up to five or 10 extra yards before being tackled. His inspired effort led to cheers and encouragement from the sidelines, especially Kruczek.

"He's going to be a heck of a tight end. He's going to grow into a big body," said Kruczek. "We knew that he was going to be an inside receiver when we recruited him. He's an athlete who can catch the football and he's made up his mind that that's where he is going to play. He's been a big surprise so far."

Thames' emergence gives quarterback Daunte Culpepper another option, which he welcomes. Culpepper said the converted high school quarterback can find playing time in an already crowded receiving corps.

"You can never have too many receivers. He's a very hard worker," Culpepper said. "He showed today that when he



Photo by MIKE MARSHALL

Redshirt freshman tight end Blake Thames led all receivers with six receptions.

catches the ball, he's always trying to get in the end zone. He'll be one of the keys to us having one of the best offenses in the country. That's our ultimate goal."

While Thames thought he would be taking a different path than the one he's embarked on, throwing passes instead of catching them, he agrees that the tight end position should give him his best chance for success.

"I hope I can catch a lot of passes. I think like a quarterback sometimes in that I always want the ball," Thames said. "Besides, I know what it's like, if you throw a pass you don't want your receivers dropping them. I always feel I should catch everything thrown at me. I know Daunte hates dropped passes, and I hate dropping them, so we have an understanding."



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SPORTS



Photo by MIKE MARSHALL

Illinois State-transfer running back Daryl Jones (25) scored three touchdowns for the losing Black team.

Jones takes the long way home

By JEFF CASE
Staff Writer

UCF running back Daryl Jones keeps his family close to his heart.

Literally.

Jones has a tattoo on his chest that reads Daryl J, to remind him of his daughter, Deiana.

"My daughter has an obsession with [the TV show] *Martin*," Jones said. "She calls me Martin and she calls herself Gina [Martin's TV girlfriend]."

"I got it to tell her I'm Daddy, Daryl J."

Family first, entertainment second —

something Jones may live by now, too.

But Jones said he didn't fully realize the importance of family until a game two years ago.

As the starting tailback for Illinois State, Jones remembers coming to Orlando for UCF's homecoming game in 1996.

"I had all my family home and it was the first time people from Florida got a chance to watch me play," said Jones, who starred at nearby Rockledge High School. "It was like homecoming for me and it was UCF's homecoming."

Although the Redbirds lost 42-15, Jones led his team in rushing (18 car-

ries, 76 yards) and was second in receiving (10 catches, 40 yards).

"The whole summer [of 1996], our players kept asking me 'When are you going to play like you did in the Central Florida game?'" Jones said. "It took me some time to understand that it was just the fact it was a lot of things that can make you play your best — surroundings, atmosphere, things like that."

"I feel that if I'm going to be the best player I can, I needed to come home."

Jones' road home has been long and winding. Originally recruited by UCF

See RUNNING, Page 24

Gold team turns back Black, 43-40

By TONY MEJIA
Staff Writer

Daunte Culpepper had run out of time. Despite all that he's done in his career at UCF, Culpepper will never have won the annual Black and Gold spring football game. Fellow senior quarterback Jason Thorpe and the Gold team saw to that, coming back from a 19-point deficit to capture a 43-40 win.

"I really wanted to win this one said," Culpepper, who is now 0-3 in spring games. "This is something that has avoided me my entire career, but it was a great game, a good spring, and this was a good competitive situation. Still, you always want to win the game, so it's tough."

This year's Black and Gold game had one main difference from typical football games—the quarterback could not be tackled. As a safety measure, Culpepper and Thorpe were to be ruled down simply by being touched or held. It sounds simple enough, but the rule provided a controversial finish to this year's game courtesy of Thorpe.

"I scrambled to my left and didn't see anything open, so I cut back and I guess everyone thought someone put their hand on my back," Thorpe said. "I didn't hear the whistle so I just kept running. Whether it was legitimate or not is not my call to

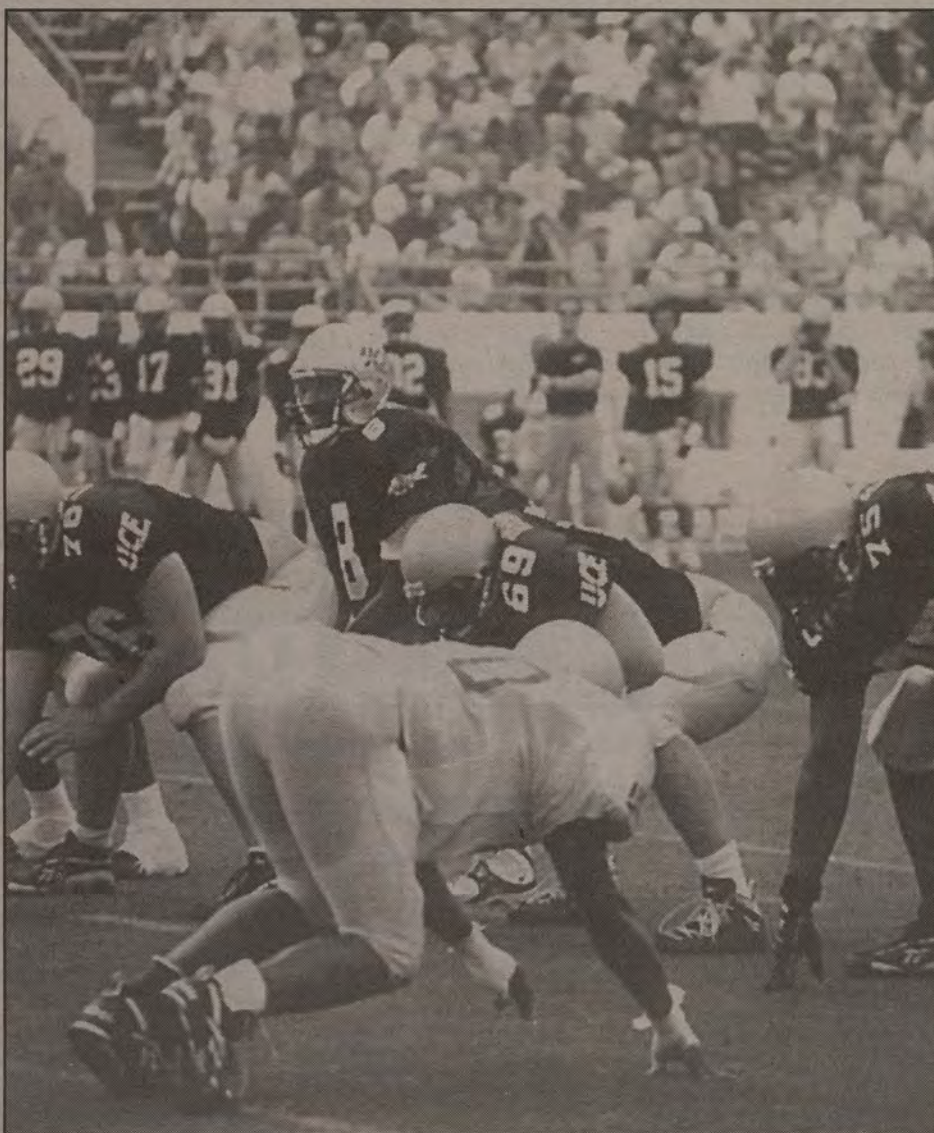


Photo by MIKE MARSHALL

The Gold team rallied from down 40-21 in the third quarter to beat quarterback Daunte Culpepper (8) and the Black team, 43-40, in front of 2,070 fans at the Florida Citrus Bowl on April 11. Culpepper finishes his spring career 0-3 in Black and Gold games.

See TRANSFER, Page 24

UCF wins Stetson series, Bergman unhappy with errors

By DEREK GONSOULIN
Sports Editor

The baseball team won its series with Stetson, but Coach Jay Bergman expects much more from his team if it's going to be successful in the Trans America Athletic Conference.

UCF (29-14, 6-3) took two of three from the Hatters this past weekend, outslugging Stetson, 16-13, on April 10 before splitting a doubleheader on Saturday. The Knights gave up nine unearned runs in the series, including three in the loss, a 7-6 decision in the first game of the doubleheader.

"That's baseball, but it's not good baseball and that doesn't win championships," Bergman said.

With UCF up 6-3 in the second game of the series, catcher Shane Garrett's indecision in a fourth-inning rundown kept the Knights from recording the third out. After starter Travis Held had struck out Stetson's Jason Shipley, the two baserunners converged on second base. Garrett ran towards the runner from first base, but couldn't decide which base to throw it to and the runners made it to first and second safely. The following batter singled to make the score 6-4.

Held, who hadn't started in weeks due to a sore shoulder, hit the first batter he faced and threw the next batter's bunt into right field to start Stetson's four-run, sixth-inning rally.

See KNIGHTS, Page 23

FROM the SPORTS desk

Track tunes up for TAAC at Raging Bull

Select athletes from the women's track and field team competed at the Raging Bull Two-light Invitational on April 11 at the University of South Florida. The meet, which featured USF, North Florida, Florida International, Florida Memorial, Florida, Miami, Bethune Cookman, Fredonia State, and UCF, was an unscored team meet.

Six Golden Knights placed at the meet with Amber Twyner finishing in second place in the javelin (120-feet, 2-inches) and third in the shot put (36-feet, 5-inch-

es). Amy Lendman placed sixth in the javelin (85-feet, 1-inch), 10th in the triple jump (32-feet, 4-inches), 12th in the long jump (14-feet, 6-inches) and 14th in the 200-meter dash (27.76).

Shar Lammers and Kelly Lackner placed eighth and 14th, respectively in the 800-meter run. Lammers finished with a time of 2:27.49 while Lackner finished with a time of 2:34.31. Tammy Bryant placed 17th in the 1,500-meter run (5:32.05) and Nikeisha Skyers placed fifth in the 100 meter high hurdles with a time of 14.94 seconds.

UCF will defend its Trans America Athletic Conference Championship title

on Friday and Saturday, April 17-18 on the campus of Florida International University.

Women lose season finale, streak ends at 14

The No. 24 South Alabama women's tennis team beat No. 65 UCF, 9-0, in Mobile, Ala. on April 11, stopping the team's winning streak at 14.

No. 1 singles player Maria Widyadharma lost to Vanda Novakova 6-3, 6-7, 1-6 and No. 2 Ann Svantesson fell 6-3, 0-6, 2-6 to Lenka Jakubekova. No other Knight lasted longer than two sets.

UCF (18-5) looks to defend its Trans

America Athletic Conference championship when the men's and women's TAAC tournaments begin April 16 in Macon, Ga. The men's team (12-9), runners up in last year's tournament, will try for the first men's TAAC championship in school history. The championship games are on April 19.

Golf places 12th at Hitchcock

The men's golf team shot a final round 310 and finished 12th at the Billy Hitchcock Intercollegiate in Opelika, Ala. on April 12. Kristian Svalheim led the Golden Knights finishing tied for

See MEN'S, Page 23